Masonic Records.

1847 - 1907.

COMPILED BY
WOR. BRO. W. R. BLAIR.

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MASONIC RECORDS

(CHIEFLY OF THE ETRUSCAN LODGE)

COMPILED BY

WOR. BRO. W. R. BLAIR,

P.M. Etruscan Lodge, No. 546, Longton;
P.M. Foresters' Lodge, No. 456, Uttoxeter;
S.W. Foster Gough Lodge, No. 2706;
P.P.G. Senior Warden, Staffordshire.
P.Z. Etruscan Chapter, 546., P.P.G.J.
P.M. Etruscan Lodge, M.M.M. No. 308., P.P.G.S.O.

Longton:
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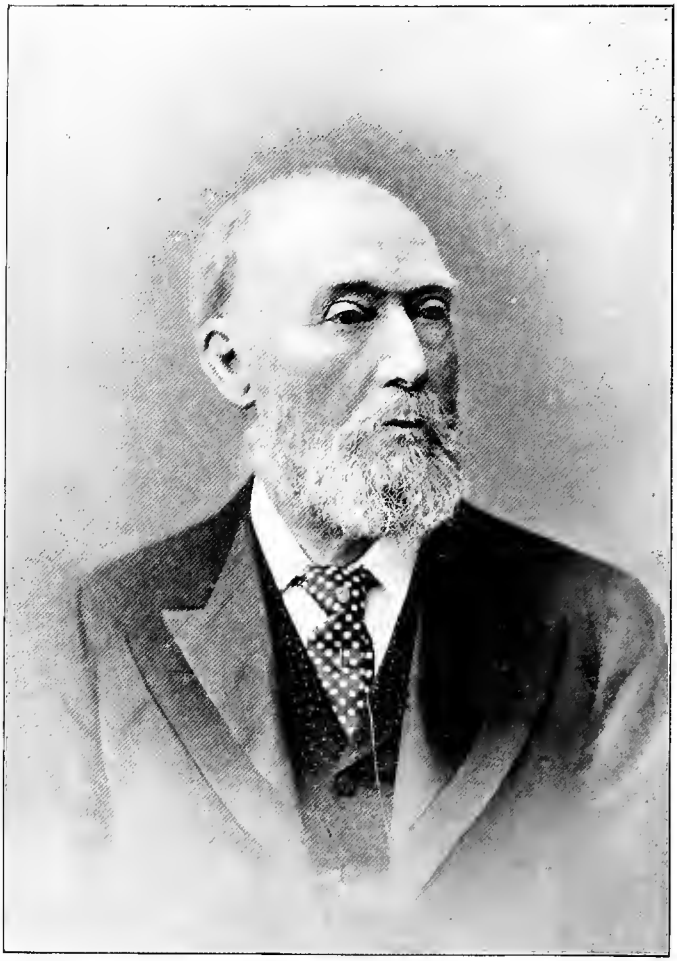


WOR. BRO. W. R. BLAIR, P.P.S.G.W.

MASONIC RECORDS

(CHIEFLY OF THE ETRUSCAN LODGE).

STAFFORDSHIRE has for centuries been noted for producing eminent Freemasons. As far back as A.D. 650 St. Chad patronised Masonry, and is believed to have held high office. More than a thousand years later we find in Dr. Plot's "History of Staffordshire," published in 1686: "To these add the customs relating to the county, whereof they have one, of admitting men into the Society of Freemasons, that in the moorlands of this county seem to be of greater request than anywhere else, though I find the custom spread more or less all over the nation; for here I find persons of the most eminent quality that did not disdain to be of this fellowship; nor indeed need they, were it of that antiquity and honor that is pretended in a large parchment 'volum' they have amongst them containing the history and rules of the Craft of Masonry."

Onward again we find records of Lodges held in the ancient towns of Staffordshire, the earliest being in Wolverhampton 1732 and 1768, Newcastle 1763 and 1767, Tamworth 1795, Lichfield 1784. All these, however, have ceased to exist, and others of more recent date flourish in their stead.

In the Potteries the oldest Lodge is St. Martin's, No. 98, dating from 1805, and all honor is due and given to the old Burslem Masons for bringing it to the flourishing state it is now in; but, considering the smallness and comparative unimportance of Lane End (now Longton), the population at that time being about 4,000 when the first Lodge was founded in 1805, Longton has every reason to be proud of her old Masons.

There were then two Grand Lodges in England. "The Grand Lodge of England," constituted in 1717, the members of which were known after 1751 as Modern Masons, and "The Grand Lodge of England," according to the old institutions, constituted 1751, the members being designated Ancient or Atholl Masons. These two Grand Lodges were combined in 1813, and formed the "United Grand Lodge of England." The Lane End brethren obtained a Warrant from the Ancients, dated the 24th April, 1805, and called the Lodge "The United Pottery Lodge, No. 134" (see Lane's Records), the number being altered in 1814 to 160. It was held on the Tuesday nearest the full moon, and was a lodge of four degrees, that is, it included the "Holy Royal Arch." There are no minutes extant, but a few signatures remain. It was held originally at the White Lion Inn, subsequently at The Swan, the Crown and Anchor and the Union Hotel, and then back to the White Lion. In 1822 the name was altered to the "United Potters' Lodge," and it was ultimately erased in 1829.

The Bible used by this Lodge is in possession of the Menturia, No. 418. It bears this inscription:—

Lodge 160. H. Spendow, W.M.
H. Simpkin, S.W.
W. Flower, J.W.
J. Pratt, S.

Lane End, June 7th, 1822.

A copy of "Rules and Orders," issued by order of Grand Lodge, was presented to the Etruscan Lodge by our late Bro. Samuel Hill. It gives an insight to the manners and customs of our brethren of a century ago. (See Appendix.)

"The Independent Lodge," No. 459, the date of whose Warrant was 22nd October, 1789, was removed from the Black Lion and Swan, Congleton, to the White Lion, Lane End, also in April, 1805, and re-named "Independent Lodge of the United Pottery." The number was 459, and altered in 1814 to 516. This was a Lodge of Moderns held under the Grand Lodge of England, constituted in 1717, and was erased March 5th, 1828.

The square and compasses originally belonging to this Lodge are now in the possession of the Menturia, No. 418. On the square is engraved: "United Pottery Lodge, 459, Lane End."

The first Etruscan Lodge was held at the Bridge Inn, Etruria, in 1803, and removed in 1807 to the Talbot Inn, Stoke-on-Trent, where it remained until 1847, when it was erased, very little being known of its history.

1847. Strenuous efforts were made by the founders of the present Etruscan Lodge to have the Warrant transferred to Longton. It was in their possession for some time, but, unfortunately, Grand Lodge would not agree to it, and the old Warrant was returned 30th September, 1847. The Warrant of the present Lodge was issued dated 13th October, 1847, No. 803 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of England. Seven names appear on the Warrant:—Samuel Baker, W.M.; William Kenwright Harvey, S.W.; Henry Beardmore, J.W.; Thomas Edenser Chesswas, Elisha Holland, William Hopwood and Edwin Blood.

A meeting was held on the 20th October at which William Roberts and Samuel Hill were proposed as candidates, and Bro. John Smith as a joining member, the latter being described as late of "Derbyshire Lodge, Longnor," and all arrangements were made for the consecration, which took place on the 18th November, 1847. The ceremony was performed by the W.D.P.G.M. Bro. H. C. Vernon, assisted by Wor. Bro. Fenton, P.S.G.W.; Wor. Bro. Fourdrinier, P.J.G.W., and Bro. Bate, P.G.P., and other Provincial Grand Officers and Brethren. This seems to have been a busy afternoon. In addition to the consecration the first Master was installed—Samuel Baker, W.M., who appointed as officers:

W. K. Harvey, S.W.
Henry Beardmore, J.W.
T. E. Chesswas, S.D.
Elisha Holland, J.D.
W. Boulton, Treasurer.
John Smith, Secretary.
John Wagg, Tyler.

The minute says, that after Bro. Boulton and Bro. Wagg had been balloted for, and approved, they were invested by the W.M., although they do not seem to have been proposed as joining members; and William Roberts and Samuel Hill were initiated.

No mention is made of the banquet, but it is evident it took place, as the Treasurer's book shows a payment to Miss Trubshaw of the Crown and Anchor of £9, use of Town Hall, 8/-, the sale of 27 tickets at 5/- each, &c.

The first three or four meetings were held at the Crown and Anchor. The removal was caused by a letter from W. Bro. H. C. Vernon, D.P.G.M., of which the following is an extract:—"Two or three little matters have just "struck me, which I think of importance to the well-being "of a Lodge on its first starting. One of the foremost is "the bad habit of meeting at an inn. I will leave it to "you to make the best bargain you can for renting the "Town Hall for one year, letting me know the rent fixed "upon, which I will pay."

A Lodge of Emergency was held 2nd December, 1847, when the above extracts were ordered to be entered on the minutes, and a resolution passed:—

"That on and after the 13th January, 1848, the "meetings of this Lodge be held at the New Town Hall, "and that the Secretary inform R.W. Bro. H. C. Vernon, "D.P.G.M., that the Lodge accept with feelings of "gratitude the kind offer made by him."

The rent required for the use of the Town Hall was £5 per annum, which sum was in due course forwarded by the D.P.G.M.

It was resolved on the 23rd December, 1847:—"That the Lodge be held for the future on the second Thursday in every calendar month." It was also decided to hold a Lodge of Instruction on the first Thursday in each month. This was confirmed on July 13th by a communication from the D.P.G.M., "sanctioning the alteration "from the time of meeting expressed in the Warrant, and "also sanctioning the holding of the Lodge of Instruction."

A letter was received from Wor. Bro. Frederic Dee,

P.G. Secretary, on the 2nd May, informing the Lodge of the appointment of R.W. Bro. H. C. Vernon, D.P.G.M., to the position of Senior Grand Warden of England. A congratulatory address was forwarded to him, signed by the W.M. and his officers. In his reply he says:—"I shall "be at all times most happy to hear of the well-doing of "No. 803, and to assist them to the utmost of my power "by using in Grand Lodge any influence I may possess, "for their benefit, as well as for that of the country "brethren generally."

1848-9. The Treasurer's Book was made up to this date, 13th July, 1848, when the Lodge was found to be £30 in debt. This sum was lent by Bro. Elisha Holland to bear interest at £5 per cent.

A gloom was cast over the Lodge by the death of Bro. Henry Beardmore, one of the founders, and the first J.W., which occurred at this time. He was a young man of great promise, and held in high esteem among his brethren, and his death was generally deplored.

In September this year the thanks of the Lodge were accorded to Bro. Harvey for his very handsome present of a lamp, &c.; Bro. Baker, W.M., for his very handsome present of three antique chairs; Bro. Hill, for his very handsome present of a floorcloth; Bro. Wagg, for his very handsome present of a copper-plate engraving. In November Bro. Holland is thanked for the very handsome present of a perfect ashlar, triangle, &c.

The income of the Lodge for the year, or rather up to January, 1849, was £20 18s.—this included a donation of £5 from the D.P.G.M. But a tithe of it (£2 1s.) was given for "the relief of the poor," and "for poor and distressed Masons," leaving a balance of 12s. to be carried forward.

Bro. David Wright was elected Tyler to take the place of Bro. Wagg, who was getting old and infirm.

The Lodge prospered greatly under the Mastership of Bros. Harvey and Holland, the services of the former being recognised, as accorded in the minutes under the date of January 11th, 1850, when "Bro. J. E. Chesswas

presented in the name of the officers and brethren a Past Master's Jewel to Bro. W. K. Harvey, P.M., as a token of respect." (This Jewel was sent, along with his other regalia, by the R.W. Bro. Harvey to the writer, to be delivered to the Lodge, a short time before he died, and is now in the Harvey Room).

The inscription on the Jewel is: "Presented as a token of respect to Bro. W. K. Harvey, by the Etruscan Lodge, 803, Longton, 10th January, 1850."

A committee was formed in December of this year, consisting of Bros. Green, A. Glover, and W. K. Harvey: "To enquire what means can be brought to bear for providing a Masonic Hall, and to report the same as early as convenient."

1851. This year was a red-letter one in the history of the Lodge: First, our much-esteemed Bro. Samuel Hill (whose birth in Masonry was coeval with the birth of the Lodge) was raised to the highest honour the craft can give or the Lodge bestow on any of its members, by being chosen W.M. for the year; and he fully justified the choice the brethren had made. Then, the Masonic Hall Committee, seeing no prospect of building or buying anything suitable, a resolution was proposed: "That £15 per year be invested in the Longton Independent Building Society and paid for out of the funds of the Lodge." This was duly carried out by our thrifty brethren, and, as will be shown subsequently, a considerable sum of money was saved. But the principal excitement was caused by P.G. Lodge being held under the auspices of this four-year-old Lodge, the R.W.P.G.M., the Hon. George Anson having acceded to its request to hold the Lodge in Longton.

The minutes are as follows:—

Lodge of Emergency, Zion Schoolroom, Longton, 23rd September, 1851.

Lodge opened with prayer.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, and the business transacted, the brethren went in procession to St. John's Church, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. Bro. Brine, P.G.C., of Worcester-

shire, after which the brethren went again in procession to Zion School, where the Provincial Lodge was closed.

The brethren of this Lodge, with their visitors, were called off from labour to refreshment at the New Town Hall, after which they were again called to labour, and the Lodge closed with prayer.

A number of notable Staffordshire Masons were present. Among the signatures was George Vernon, P.P.S.G.W., who afterwards became Prov. G.M., and was a good friend and frequent visitor to the Lodge.

From other sources we find that the collection after the sermon realised £19 19s., which was apportioned as follows:—N.S. Infirmary, £10 10s.; Zion School, £3 3s.; St. James's School, £3 3s.; St. John's School, £3 3s. The Treasurer's book shows that Stoddard's Band was engaged at a cost of £6 10s.; ringing church bells, £1 15s.; singers at banquet, £2 9s. 6d.; that the clerk of the church, the beadle, the organ-blower and pew-opener were tipped, and that the total cost was £22 14s. 2d. It is worthy of note that the first Provincial Grand appointment conferred on a member of this Lodge was given to Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey at this meeting, when he was appointed P.S.G. Deacon.

1852. The year opened with the installation of Bro. Charles Glover, when Bro. Robert Hill read a report, for which a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him, and it was resolved that it be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge and a copy be sent to Provincial Grand Lodge. The report reads as follows:—

"The Secretary, in laying this, his first report, before "the brethren, trusts that it will prove satisfactory to "them.

"This Lodge was founded in August, 1847, and then "numbered ten members. During the year 1848 we find "it increased to twelve, and in 1849 to nineteen members, "since which time several members have left us and "moved to distant parts of the country. The past year "has been characterized by a still further increase, for, "notwithstanding these removals, we have twenty-seven "subscribing members.

"We have held fourteen regular Lodges, at which the "average attendance of members has been fifteen; and "also eight Lodges of Instruction. The attendance upon "these occasions has not been so numerous as could have "been desired. We have had the honor to entertain the "Provincial Grand Lodge, at whose meeting a vote of "thanks was given to us for the arrangements we made "for their accommodation.

"In conclusion, the Secretary begs to state, that, in "accordance with the instructions given to him in Novem-"ber last, he has made out an inventory of the property "belonging to the Lodge, the which will be found at the "end of the Minute Book.

"Yours fraternally,

"ROBERT HILL."

"*8th January, 1852.*

It was customary at this time, and for some years later, before a brother could be passed or raised, for a resolution to that effect to be proposed and seconded in open Lodge at the previous monthy meeting.

It was also the custom to dine in the Masonic clothing, and on occasions of a dinner or supper the Lodge was called from labour to refreshment, and adjourned to the inn or hotel, when, after the feast and list of toasts were disposed of, the brethren were called from refreshment to labour, the doors tyled, propositions received, and the Lodge closed in the usual manner with prayer, as will be seen from the minutes of May and June, 1852. In the former month it was resolved: "That at the next Lodge "the brethren hold a festival to celebrate the anniversary "of St. John the Baptist." The minute for June describes that: "The brethren were then called from labour to "refreshment at the Union Hotel, where they partook of "a sumptuous repast, prepared by the worthy host, Bro. "Charles Lear, 660, under the able superintendence of "Bro. W. Green, Steward. After having done honour to "the superiors of the fraternity, with due observance, the "brethren were called from refreshment to labour, when "the Lodge was closed with prayer."

BANNER OF THE ETRUSCAN LODGE.

The Steward's office was by no means a sinecure in the earlier years of the Lodge's existence, and was frequently filled by a P.M. The banquet tickets were divided, the one half, marked dinner 5/6, being given to the caterer; the other half or wine ticket, marked 5/-, was given to the Steward, who ordered all wine, and saw that it was put on the table, kept his eye on the waiters to prevent them removing bottles that were half-full, and sedulously supplied the more bibulous brethren, or he was greeted with "Steward! Steward!! We have no wine here!" He endeavoured to keep an account of all wine supplied, and sometimes found it difficult to make it agree with the landlord's bill, another proof of the fallacy of attempting to reckon without your host. The wine tickets never paid for the whole of the wine consumed, the Lodge contributing the balance. In addition to the before-mentioned duties the Steward made a special point of attending to the wants of the visitors, frequently having to whistle for his own dinner.

The brethren agreed to purchase a banner, having first decided to use the Etruscan Vase as a model, and Bro. French, of London, was entrusted with the order, at a cost of £7 7s.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed on learning that a motion is to be made in P.G. Lodge authorizing that body to hold its meetings in one locality only, and it was resolved to oppose it. This was no doubt done, as the brethren mustered in good force at Uttoxeter, where the P.G. Lodge was to be held this year.

The Rev. Bro. Geo. Bradshaw, Chaplain of this Lodge, being appointed to preach, his sermon was printed, and two copies were ordered to be bound in "truly Masonic "binding, and to have suitable inscriptions thereon, one "to be presented to the Rev. Brother, and the other to be "considered the property of the Lodge."

Bro. W. K. Harvey is appointed P.J.G.W. at Uttoxeter.

Bro. A. Glover gives the Lodge a "seraphine (a precursor of the harmonium, invented by John Green in 1833), on condition that the Lodge go to the expense of

putting it in proper order." This was attempted by James Stoddard at a cost of £6 10s.

At the end of the year the Secretary, Bro. Felix H. Hawley, drew attention to the small amount of arrears, viz.:—£4 18s., and wrote a report as follows:—

"This bringing the Secretary to the close of the duties "appertaining to this office, he bears a pleasing testimony "to the improved condition of the subscription account, "the present arrears before-mentioned being owing by "eight members of the thirty-seven which constitute the "Lodge at this time, while the corresponding period last "year was £8 8s., owing by ten members of the twenty-"seven which then subscribed to the Lodge. Of last "year's arrears all had been received, except 6/-; the "total amount received by him has been £76. He hopes "by a continued exertion of his successor the arrears will "be brought to the lowest minimum. He also begs to "suggest the propriety of having the schedule of the "property belonging to the Lodge compared, and, where "needed, a re-adjustment made."

The prosperity of the Lodge had been so great as to enable it to repay Bro. Holland, with interest, the loan of £30 he had made to it in 1848.

1853. The Secretary, at the beginning of this year, was made a paid official, the remuneraion being the amount of his subscription per annum.

In June the W.M. Bro. Alfred Glover moved a resolution: "That means be taken to obtain possession of a "silver square, a pair of compasses, and Bible, at present "the property of the Menturia Lodge, and for which an "equivalent be made." No record is to be found in the minutes of the failure "to obtain possesion" of the coveted articles; no doubt the Menturians were proof against the blandishments of the Etruscans. We know, at any rate, they are still the property of the Menturia Lodge.

The W.M. was thanked for "his presentation to the "Lodge of the very excellent and splendid accession to "the principal pedestal."

In September "the Chaplain, our worthy Bro. the "Rev. W. H. Wright, M.A., expresses his intention to "retire from the Lodge by reason of peculiar circum-"stances. It is resolved with zeal and unanimity that "he should be elected to the honorable station of principal "honorary member. In return for which our highly-"esteemed brother complimented the brethren with bril-"liant and profound eloquence."

This year the Pro. Grand Lodge was held at Newcastle, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Col. G. A. Vernon, Prov. Grand Master, he having been appointed on the resignation of Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. George Anson. Four brethren "receive the purple," viz.:—

Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey, P.S.G., Warden.
Bro. the Rev. W. H. Wright, P.G., Chaplain.
Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill, P.G. Sword Bearer.
Bro. Carlo Bregazzi, P.G., Standard Bearer.

Bro. Bregazzi had been a frequent visitor to the Lodge, but joined in 1851. He was also the Tyler of Menturia, Hanley. He was an Italian by birth, a refugee in England from his political enemies, and was a typical Standard Bearer, not very tall, but broad, with a large head, rough grey hair, and large grey beard, with a merry twinkle in his eye—quite a character in his way. He was a very accomplished whistler. Calling one day at Carter's, Stoke, he found Dr. Duffort enjoying a glass with some friends. The doctor had the credit—whether he deserved it or not of being a "slow payer"; he vainly persuaded Carlo to whistle for the amusement of himself and friends. At last he promised, if Carlo would oblige them, to give him an order to regild and frame some pictures. "Ah! said Bregazzi, "I shee, I shall have to whistle for the order, and then I shall have to whistle for the money."*

1854. Nothing occurred during the Mastership of Bro. Wm. Green.

The Lodge contributed £5 5s. to the Patriotic Fund, to which the Grand Lodge of England had given £1,000.

* See Appendix—Bregazzi.

Provincial Grand Lodge held at Walsall. Wor. Bro. A. Glover appointed P.J.G.D., and Bro. Bragazzi again Standard Bearer, which office he held until 1861.

The Lodge purchased fifty copies of the sermon preached at Walsall by Bro. the Rev. W. H. Wright, P.G., Chaplain.

Bro. Bowess Stephan, who was initiated in this Lodge in 1851, stated that he was necessitous, and wished to return to his native land—he was an Armenian. Our charitable (?) brethren gave him £10.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain preached another sermon at Stoke on the occasion of the consecration of the Portland Lodge, and our sermon-loving brethren purchased fifty copies. The following curious resolution is recorded in the Minute Book later, which throws some light on the manner the brethren appreciated the sermons: "That the brethren who became purchasers of these ser-"mons should be entitled to a copy of the former ones "gratis."

1855-7. These years present very few points of interest, the Wor. Masters being Bros. E. Clarke, F. H. Hawley, and Robert Hill. A number of good men and true were initiated, who did not become active Masons, as only two out of eighteen reached the chair, viz.:—Wor. Bros. W. Webberley and Jabez Smith.

In 1856 it was resolved:—"That a sufficient number "of glasses, suitable for festive purposes, and properly "engraved with the number of the Lodge, &c., &c., be "provided, and paid for out of the Lodge funds."

These firing glasses have been disused for some years, but a number of them are still to be found on the Lodge premises. Glasses somewhat similar to these, made very strong, were in the old time before 1813 used for drinking vessels, although the capacity was small, when, as Dr. Oliver puts it, "the small modicum of punch with which "a toast was honoured retained a higher flavour than the "same potation if produced at a private board."

The R.W. the P.G.M. Bro. Col. Geo. Vernon, and the D.P.G.M. Bro. Thos. Ward, visited the Lodge January

7th, 1857. The large Masonic oil-painting, which hangs behind the S.W., was presented in March by the W.M. Bro. Robert Hill, for which he received the hearty thanks of the brethren. Five pounds was voted to the widow and children of the late Bro. Merrick, and £1 1s. to the Indian Relief Fund.

From letters still extant we find that the R.W.P.G.M. Col. Vernon had promised Wor. Bro. Alfred Glover to give two china goblets to the Lodge. An extract from his letter to Bro. A. Glover, April 16th, 1857, reads:—

"I own I find it somewhat difficult to make out what "the goblets will be like. I shall leave it to your own "good taste, trusting they may be such as I shall not be "ashamed to present to the Lodge, and such as the "brethren may feel pleasure in producing on their festive "occasions. Mind that the goblets are convenient to "drink from; they should not have a curved lip."

In another letter he describes the jewel and chain of a P.G.M., but suggests "that Bro. Hawley* should wait "until P.G. Lodge and see his jewel, and make a sketch if "necessary. I find you have directed the inscription to be "Old English, which is what I wished." On the 25th June, 1857, he gives his idea of what the inscription should be, but is at a loss to fix the date, and says: "It strikes me "that the day on which I visited the Lodge and told you "I should wish to have the goblets made, &c., viz.:—the "8th January last, should be the date to be placed on "them."

1858. At length the cups are finished, and the 14th January, 1858, is fixed for the presentation. But our R.W. Brother was unable to leave London, where he was engaged on urgent business, and next Lodge—February 11th—is decided on. The January Lodge being the festival, it was agreed that the W.M. Elect, Bro. S. P. Goddard, should be installed, but that the banquet be postponed until next month. Unfortunately the R.W.P.G.M. could not attend, and deputed Wor. Bro. Alfred Glover to make the presentation. From the minutes we find that: "The "Wor. Bro. A. Glover, in a neat and appropriate address,

* Wor. Bro. R. H. Hawley.

"presented two most beautiful and richly-gilded porce-
"laine loving cups to the Lodge, the gift of the
"R.W.P.G.M. Bro. G. A. Vernon. The W.M. Bro. S.P.
"Goddard, in a very feeling manner, acknowledged the
"handsome gift of our worthy and excellent P.G. Master,
"and, in returning thanks on behalf of the Lodge, he
"hoped that the Lodge would always merit the esteem
"and respect of the R.W.P.G.M. and that of all other
"Masons."

The loving cups are of the finest Staffordshire porcelaine, and were manufactured by Messrs. Hawley & Sons, the Foley, Longton. They are 14 inches high, and 8½ inches diameter.

The decorations are superb. On each there is an Egyptian key border in burnished gold traced in brown; below that. on white ground, are beautifully painted roses and fruit, then a deep band of mazarine blue embellished with gold. The foot is decorated in raised gold and jewels in white enamel, &c. The handles are of solid burnished gold.

On one side of each cup is the inscription, in gold: "Presented to the Etruscan Lodge, No. 803, by Lieut.-Col. G. A. Vernon, R.W.P.G.M. of the Province of Staffordshire, as a mark of his fraternal regard, January 8th, 1857," with the seal of P.G. Lodge, and collar of Prov. G. Master.

On the reverse of one are various Masonic emblems, and on the other are figures in dull gold of "Faith, Hope, and Charity." Every part of the outside of each cup not covered by the before-mentioned is rich with conventional and floral designs in gold. The interior of each is decorated with a band of blue ground, heavily traced with burnished and dull raised gold, with a large central gold star at bottom.

On the occasion of the presentation of the loving cups we are so justly proud of, the writer of this first saw the light of Masonry. In the same year Bros. Geo. Copestake and W. A. Adderley were initiated.

On May 13th the following very beautiful letter of

THE TWO LOVING CUPS PRESENTED BY COL. G. A. VERNON,
Rt. Wor. Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire, 1853-1864.

thanks was read from Wor. Bro. Thos. Ward, D.P.G.M., in answer to a letter of condolence sent by the Lodge on the death of Mrs. Ward. His visits to this Lodge were rather frequent, and were always hailed with delight by the brethren, who loved, honoured, and respected him, as an upright man and an excellent and enthusiastic Mason.

NEWCASTLE,
May 1st, 1858.

MY DEAR SIR AND WOR. BROTHER,

Permit me to express to you, and through you to the wardens, officers and brethren of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons, No. 803, my sincere and heartfelt thanks for their very kind and consolatory address to me, on my late domestic bereavement.

A union of more than fifty years cannot be dissolved without a bitter pang to the survivor, even when that survivor in the course of nature has the prospect of a speedy re-union in a better world.

The sources of Christian consolation pointed out in that address have, indeed, been my support under my late affliction, and will, I trust, still enable me to bow submissively to the decree of an all-wise and all-merciful God. I should, however, be most ungrateful, if I did not say that the kind feelings and sympathy I have met with from my Masonic friends and brethren have added in no slight degree to the comfort derived from other and higher sources. Be assured that the sympathy I have experienced from the brethren of your Lodge is most highly appreciated, and that I shall ever preserve and value your kind and grateful feelings towards me.

Believe me, my dear Sir and Wor. Brother,

Yours very truly and fraternally

THOMAS WARD, D.P.G.M.,
Staffordshire.

1859. The next Wor. Master was Bro. Geo. Garnham, who had a very busy time of it, initiating no less than nine worthy men, among whom were Bros. J. F Wileman, Thos. Turner, and Thos. Blair. Bro. Garnham

was superintendent of police, exercising his difficult position with judgment and humanity.

1860. The Mastership of Bro. R. H. Hawley is noted by the entrance into Masonry of Bro. John Webberley, who, as the years rolled on, was always found at his post, doing his duty and doing it well.

About this time a resolution was passed and entered on the minutes, being, in fact, a vote of censure on one of the brethren. At the following meeting of the Lodge there was a general feeling of doubt on the matter, and the minutes stand unconfirmed, "pending the opinion of the R.W.P.G.M. Bro. Col. Vernon," as to whether the particular minute ought to be expunged, or the leaf on which it was written torn out.

The following extract from his letter is to the point: "The confirmation of the minutes is only an acknowledg-"ment that the account of the proceedings of the "previous Lodge is a correct one. If such is the case the "duty of the Lodge will be to confirm the minutes, and "then any brother can propose that such and such pro-"positions be not carried out. It rests with the brethren "to modify, if they think fit, any censure, &c., but what "has been entered on the minutes cannot be expunged."

Our picturesque old Bro. Carlo Bregazzi was very materially helped in his difficulties, and "the W.M. Bro. R. H. Hawley, Past Masters S. Hill and R. Hill were requested to undertake the kindly office of making the presentation and forwarding by other means the pecuniary interest of Bro. Bregazzi."

1861. The Lodge still prospered in numbers and in wealth, so much so that our Treasurer, Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey, allowed interest on the balance. The W.M. Bro. Enoch Palmer initiated five, of whom the most noted were Bros. Burrell and F. S. Wright.

1862. The day Wor. Bro. Wm. Webberley was installed the Lodge went in mourning for H.R.H. Prince Albert, and resolved to send a letter of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen.

This year the Lodge had to find temporary quarters

at the Court House during the alteration and enlargement of the Town Hall. The Lodge presented Bro. David Wright, the Tyler, with full-dress clothing on his appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Standard Bearer, which office he held until 1869.

At Provincial Grand Lodge Wor. Bro. Wm. Webberley was invested with the collar and jewel of Prov. J.G. Deacon.

Previous to this date it was not customary to have a supper after Lodge; only on rare and special occasions were they held. It was now proposed: "That supper be "held quarterly, the expense of the same to be paid by "the brethren, without affecting the funds of the Lodge, "only in case of visitors, when the W.M. shall use his "discretion."

1863. On the 12th February Wor. Bro. Jabez Smith, W.M., being in the chair, the Lodge was honoured by a visit of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master Bro. Col. Vernon. He stated: "That the principal object of his "visit was to bid the brethren of the Etruscan farewell, "as this would in all probability be the last time he should "visit them in the capacity of P.G.M. of the province. "His reason for retirement was his overpowering engage-"ments. He had ever regarded his high position in the "province as one, not of honour merely, but of important "duty, and, as he could no longer discharge the duty, he "thought he ought not to retain the honour."

"The brethren duly appreciated the true masonic "motive which actuated his decision, yet deeply regretted "the occasion thereof, and uniformly agreed they should "never see his like again."

After the Lodge was closed the loving cups were passed round, and the brethren spent a couple of hours in a very pleasant and happy manner, enlivened by songs, &c. The Prov. Grand Master sang "'Twas merry in the Hall when the beards wag all"; Bro. Chantry sang "Old King Cole," &c., &c. It is with feelings of sadness that the writer records that of the thirty members of our Lodge who signed the Tyler's Book on that occasion twenty and nine have ascended to the Grand Lodge above;

he alone remains and expresses his gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe for all His mercies.

In May the Lodge returned to its old quarters at the New Town Hall, and subscribed handsomely to the "Vernon Testimonial."

A circular letter, dated 6th July, 1863, was received from the Grand Secretary, W. Gray Clarke, stating that the Lodge which had theretofore been known as No. 803 would henceforth stand on the register of the Grand Lodge as No. 546.

1864. The writer was installed Wor. Master, and, during his term of office had the pleasure of initiating Bro. Arthur George Prince, truly a prince of good fellows, than whom no better Mason ever wore an apron. Bro. the Rev. Adam Clarke joined the Lodge and became the Chaplain, and also Provincial Grand Chaplain of Staffordshire—of him much more hereafter.

Much gratification was felt and expressed on learning that Wor. Bro. Harvey, a member and one of the founders of the Lodge, had been appointed Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire, and the brethren of 546 showed their appreciation by attending his installation at Stafford to the number of sixty. The new R.W.P.G.M. paid his first official visit to the Lodge in October, and thanked the brethren for mustering so strongly; at the same time he resigned the treasurership of the Lodge, which he had held since its formation, and Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill accepted the position.

The wisdom of our elders in subscribing to the Building Society from early in 1851 is satisfactorily proved by the sum of £301 6s. 5d. being paid to our Treasurer, when sums of £10 10s. each were paid to the three leading charitable institutions of the fraternity.

A Masonic Ball was held early this year, which turned out a pecuniary failure; but the prosperity of the Lodge seemed now assured, for at the end of the year the balance carried forward was £361 8s. 8d.

1865. During this year, under the Mastership of Wor. Bro. D. Hampson, several initiations took place, Wor. Bro.

From an Old Painting.

THE LATE

RT. WOR. BRO. W. K. HARVEY,

Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire, 1864-1866.

W. T. McNeal being the most important. In May Wor. Bro. Holland proposed: "That a full length portrait of "the R.W.P.G. Master Bro. W. K. Harvey be painted and "hung in the Lodge Room as a memento of the esteem "in which he is held by the brethren." This was, after much consideration and inquiry, carried out at a cost of £205, the artist selected being E. M. Eddis, Esq., of Birmingham, who was strongly recommended by Bro. the Rev. Adam Clarke.

A committee was formed "to make enquiries respecting a suitable site for a Masonic Hall." It continued its labours for some years unsuccessfully.

1866. The year opens with the installation of Bro. W. A. Adderley, on which occasion the Lodge was visited by the R.W.P.G.M. Bro. W. K Harvey, and the W.D.P.G.M. Bro. Foster Gough, and many others. At the next Lodge the sum of £10 10s. was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to be added to the list of the R.W.P.G.M. who had accepted the office of Steward at the forthcoming festival.

By the death of Wor. Bro. S. P. Goddard, M.D., the Lodge lost one of its most esteemed members, the town a valuable citizen, and his wife and family a loving and revered husband and father.

The sum of £10 voted to be added to the purse to be laid on the foundation stone of the North Staffordshire Infirmary by the R.W.P.G. Master. A great muster of Freemasons assembled on this occasion at Hartshill, when the stone was laid by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and tried and proved by the R.W.P.G. Master.

This was a great day for Freemasons. Everyone admired the dignified demeanour of the R.W.P.G.M., and the excellent manner in which he did his work in the presence of H.R.H. and of such a concourse of people. Every Mason was more than pleased, whilst the brethren of the Etruscan were delighted. Alas for the mutability of human affairs! We had seen the last of the brother of whom we were so proud. In a few days the bank, of which he was the principal proprietor, failed, due, it was

said, to the withdrawal of the capital of deceased members of the firm by their representatives, and to the severe financial crisis which occurred at this time. It was thought that the failure might have been averted had our brother consulted with his friends. This he omitted to do, but, giving up everything to his creditors, he left the country. It has always been thought that the estate would have paid twenty shillings in the pound had he remained to wind it up.

The brethren of the Etruscan Lodge were, however, unanimously of opinion that he was more sinned against than sinning, as was proved by their action, for, although the Lodge was a heavy creditor, a large sum was subscribed for his relief by its members, with the aid of two or three outsiders, as will be shewn at a later period.

The Wor. D.P.G.M. Bro. Foster Gough visited the Lodge whilst our consternation was at its highest, and "delivered a discourse upon the principles of Freemasonry, "which will long be remembered by those who heard it, "especially impressing it upon the brethren that our "R.W.P.G.M. W. K. Harvey was still as our ruler and the "chief of Freemasons in this province, entitled to our love, "charity, respect and obedience."

After the resignation by Bro. Harvey of the position of P.G.M., the government of the province was in the hands of the Grand Registrar, pending the appointment of a successor to the office. He held a Prov. Grand Lodge at Stafford, when the ordinary business was transacted and Bro. W. R. Blair was appointed Prov. J.G.D.

1867. The W.D.P.G.M. Bro. Foster Gough visited the Lodge on the occasion of the installation of Bro. John Webberley as W.M.

The Lodge was in mourning for our late Bro. Thos. Edensor Chesswas, a P.M. of one of the old Lane End Lodges, and a founder of this Lodge. The portrait of Wor. Bro. Harvey not having been completed, it was decided to request the artist to do so as early as possible.

In May, notice of motion having previously been given, it was moved by Wor. Bro. Blair, seconded by Wor.

Bro. Garnham, and carried: "That a Lodge of Instruction "be formed under the sanction of the Lodge, and advo- "cated the usefulness and necessity of regularity and "uniformity, and the confidence which a knowledge of the "ceremonies gives, in the working of the Lodge, to all its "members."

A letter was read from the Grand Secretary by command of Grand Lodge, calling attention to the fact that certain persons, calling themselves Freemasons, were abroad, who held Lodges without Warrant, and requesting that great care be used in dealing with these spurious Masons.

Thanks were accorded to Bros. Patterson, Wileman and Wright for the loan to the Lodge of £30.

"Wor. Bro. Alfred Grover requested permission to "present the banner of our Past Prov. G.M. to the "Etruscan Lodge at the request of Bro. Harvey, and inti- "mated that the whole of Bro. Harvey's career tended to "the benefit of the Lodge, and sincerely hoped that no "brother would think that Bro. Harvey had disgraced that "banner."

The W.M. accepted the banner on behalf of the Lodge, and thanked Bro. Glover for the gift.

Attention was called to the distressed condition of Bro. Harvey by Wor. Bro. Garnham, who hoped that the utmost endeavours would be made to obtain further subscriptions and complete the list. At length the Harvey Fund was complete, and amounted to £367, and much discussion took place in committee and in Lodge, during which Bro. Harvey was consulted. Trustees were appointed, viz.:—Wor. Bros. S. Hill, Alfred Glover, J. F. Wileman and Bro. G. H. Hawley. It was resolved to retain the money, with the consent of the subscribers—which was duly obtained—as the property of the Lodge, on condition that a sum per annum equivalent to an annuity that could be purchased for the money, be paid to Bro. Harvey. This was carried out, and, as long as Bro. Harvey lived, the sum of £29 8s. 10d. was paid by half-yearly instalments, supplemented by sums from some of

the elder brethren. The capital sum was invested in the purchase of gas shares to pay £7 per cent., the Lodge paying the remaining calls and making up the difference between the income and the amount of the annuity.

1868. During Bro. J. F Wileman's mastership he initiated Bros. B. H. Brough and Benjamin Prowse.

We were informed in June that Wor. Bro. Foster Gough had resigned the position of D.P.G.M., and that Wor. Bro. George Singleton Tudor had been appointed in his stead. The latter visited the Etruscans in October, and won their hearts by his kindly and urbane manner. At the P.G. Lodge Wor. Bro. John Webberley received the office of P.G.P.

1869. As is customary, the W.M. installed his successor, Bro. John Burrell.

The thanks of the Lodge were accorded to Bro. Sherwin for repainting and gilding the pedestals and steps. Bros. Patterson and Wright were repaid £10 each for the loans they had kindly granted to the Lodge some time ago.

1870. Our new Master was Bro. John Allen, M.D., who was installed by Wor. Bro. Burrell, in the presence of Wor. Bro. G. S. Tudor, Prov. D.P.M., and Wor. Bro. Foster Gough, Past P.D.G.M., and with the usual ceremony and festivity. Unhappily Bro. Allen's reign was a very short one, for he died in about a month after. A Lodge of Emergency was called on the day of the funeral, which was attended by a large number of the brethren, who went in procession to the residence and thence to the grave to pay the last sad tribute of respect to departed merit. His death was felt keenly by the brethren, as he was of a kindly and genial nature. On the return to the Lodge Room, after the funeral, a vote of condolence and sympathy to be expressed in a letter to the widow was passed.

Wor. Bro. John Burrell, I.P.M., undertook the duties of W.M. for the remainder of the year.

The negotiations for the purchase of the present Lodge premises had been going on for some time, and

were concluded by the vendor's accepting the offer of £670 for the house and two cottages.

A committee was formed to ascertain and carry out the necessary alterations, and the sum of £35 was voted, with the addition of £6 10s. for gas fittings. Wor. Bros. Alfred Glover, Samuel Hill, J. F Wileman, and Bro. G. H. Hawley, were appointed trustees, and Bro. David Wright, tyler, agreed to live on the premises as custodian. The alterations went on apace, and it was decided to call the premises "The Masonic Hall," and that the first Lodge should be held there on the 9th June, and, after the duties of the Lodge, the brethren should sup together in the Lodge Room. This was duly carried out, and, after the business, an excellent supper was served up. "The usual "Loyal and Masonic Toasts had been honoured when the "toast of the evening, 'Success to the new Masonic "Hall,' was proposed by Bro. Wardhaugh in a very "eloquent and impressive speech, which was warmly "responded to by the brethren."

1871. Bro. F. S. Wright was installed by Wor. Bro. John Burrell. Wor. Bro. Robert Hill presented a large parian bust of the W.M. the Grand Master the Earl of Zetland, who had lately resigned the office, which he had held since 1844. It was hoped that his successor, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, would continue the same honourable and useful career.

It becoming known that Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill was leaving the town to take up a position in a large business in Leeds it was decided to express the appreciation of the Lodge for his long and useful services. At the meeting in March the W.M. Bro. F. S. Wright, "In the name of a "large majority of the brethren, thanked Wor. Bro. Hill "for the great services he had rendered. He was initiated "on the night of the consecration of the Lodge, and had "been a regular attendant at its meetings, had served every "office up to the chair, which he occupied in 1851, had "been D.C. since 1853, Treasurer since 1864, P.G.D.C. "for fifteen years, &c. He regretted Bro. Hill was resign-"ing these offices, but wished him good health and pros-"perity. He concluded by pinning a gold P.M. Jewel on

"his breast and handing him a purse of forty sovereigns, "subscribed by the brethren."

Wor. Bro. Hill briefly, but feelingly, responded, thanking the brethren for the handsome testimonial, and expressed a hope that, although his business necessitated his living so far away, he might still remain a member as long as he lived.

Representatives were appointed to attend a meeting at Stafford on the 18th May, to support a petition to the M.W.G. Master, praying that he would appoint Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury for the Province of Staffordshire, he having promised to act if so appointed.

Bro. T. H. Griffiths was initiated. He has proved himself to be one of the most painstaking and hardworking of our members, and so remains to this date, and will be so until the end of the chapter.

Great satisfaction was expressed on the receipt of the following letter:—

FREEMASONS' HALL,
24th July, 1871.

WOR. MASTER,

I have to acquaint you that the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable the Earl of Shrewsbury Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, to whom, therefore, you will in future address all your communications relating to the craft, excepting the returns of your Lodges, applications for certificates and other matters specially directed by the Book of Constitutions to be made to the Grand Secretary, and which are to be forwarded to me.

With fraternal regard, I remain, Wor. Master,
Your obedient servant and brother,
JOHN HERVEY, G.S.

1872. The illness of Bro. Arthur G. Prince, W.M. Elect, prevented his attendance at the January Lodge to receive the benefit of installation. At the meeting the brethren expressed their great sympathy and regret, and

THE LATE

WOR. BRO. SAMUEL HILL, P.P.S.G.W.,

One of the Founders of the Lodge.

1872. Bro. David Wright, who had held the position of Tyler for twenty-four years, with honour and credit to himself and satisfaction to the Lodge, was knocked down and killed by a railway train. The brethren of the Etruscan Lodge, from the oldest to the youngest, respected and loved him. He was the first custodian of the Masonic Hall, and worked hard and successfully to make the Lodge comfortable and its members happy. A tablet to his memory was erected in St. James's Church, bearing this inscription, and decorated with Masonic emblems:—

DAVID WRIGHT,
For Twenty-Four Years
Tyler of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons.

THIS TABLET
Was erected by the Brethren.

Born December 17th, 1818,
Died December 17th, 1872.

afterwards discussed "the sumptuous banquet" which had been provided. A dispensation was obtained from the R.W Prov. G.M. for the installation to be held in February. Bro. Prince had sufficiently recovered to be able to attend, and was placed in the chair, according to ancient custom.

It was resolved at that meeting:—"That congratu-"latory addresses be prepared to be forwarded to the "Grand Secretary for presentation to Her Most Gracious "Majesty the Queen, and to the Most Wor. Bro. His "Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on the recovery "of the Prince from his recent illness."

The consent of the Lodge was given for the formation of a Royal Arch Chapter.

In reply to the congratulatory address above-mentioned, the Grand Secretary sent copies of the reply he had received.

WHITEHALL,

13th March, 1872.

SIR,

I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the Etruscan Lodge, No. 546, Longton, on the occasion of the illness of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. I have to inform you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the address very graciously.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. A. BRUCE.

Mr. John Hervey,
Freemasons' Hall,
London.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE,

PALL MALL,

15th March, 1872.

General Sir William Knollys has been directed by the Prince of Wales to acknowledge the receipt of an

address from the members of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons on His Royal Highness' recovery, and to convey his sincere thanks for their congratulations.

G. H. Hawley, Esq.,
Senior Warden.

A letter of condolence was sent to Wor. Bro. Alfred Glover on the bereavement he had recently sustained by the death of his wife.

The bye-laws, having been revised, were adopted and ordered to be printed.

It was agreed that the R. A: Chapter pay the sum of £5 per annum as rent.

The Right Wor. P.G.M. visited the Lodge on the 12th December (a bitterly cold night). He arrived later than was expected. After the honours due to his exalted station had been given he addressed the brethren, and, in the course of his remarks, he suggested: "The establish-"ment of a fund to be devoted to benevolent purposes "in Staffordshire, and stated that a handsome sum might "easily be raised if every Freemason in the province sub-"scribed only a small amount per annum to such an object. "He hoped the brethren would give the suggestion their "warmest consideration." Before the ordinary business of the Lodge was continued the brethren were called from labour to refreshment. "After a short interval, during "which the R.W.P.G.M. (after expressing his satisfaction "at the excellent working of the Etruscan Lodge) took "his leave, the usual honours having been accorded him."

On the 14th November Bro. George Bennion (our kind and genial host, who is ever ready to afford help both in the Lodge and in the outer world) first saw the light of Masonry.

1873. Bro. Geo. H. Hawley in the chair.

Wor. Bro. Prince stated that since the last Lodge he had waited on the brethren and succeeded in obtaining the sum of £14, which sum he had remitted to the R.W.P.G.M., to be applied by him to charitable purposes, which was acknowledged in the following terms:—

[Copy letter.]

INGESTRE, STAFFORD,

January 4th, 1873.

DEAR BRO. PRINCE,

Pray accept my best thanks to you and to the brethren for your handsome cheque of £14 for charitable Masonic purposes. I will send it to the P.G. Secretary and desire him to place it to the Benevolent Fund instituted by me. I have been, and shall continue to urge Lodges to contribute to such a fund either at each monthly gathering or (as you prefer) annually, and I am sure to succeed. I regret your engagements prevent your coming over here, as I should have liked to have thanked you personally for all but taking the initiative in this matter. May I ask for this reply to be recorded in the minutes of your Lodge?

Believe me,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

SHREWSBURY, P.G.M.,
Staffordshire.

The calls on the gas shares and many smaller extraordinary expenses kept the Lodge very poor. It was glad to accept the loan of £21 from Wor. Bro. Alfred Glover.

A dispensation having been obtained, Thomas Warren was initiated and elected Tyler on the 19th May.

Grand Lodge ordered all Lodges to be placed in Masonic mourning for six months in consequence of the much lamented death of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Past Grand Master.

Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey and Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill were made honorary members.

Wor. Bro. F. S. Wright was appointed to represent this Lodge upon the Committee of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association.

A letter was received from Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey "expressing his heartfelt thanks for the honour that the "brethren of the Etruscan Lodge had accorded to him."

Our kindly Bro. Geo. Garnham died after having been a regular attendant of the Lodge for 21 years.

1874. Bro. W. T. McNeal was installed by his predecessor, Wor. Bro. G. H. Hawley, who, on that occasion, took the opportunity of stating: "That he had a very "pleasant duty to perform. The brethren had subscribed "together for the purchase of a gold Past Master's Jewel, "and they had requested that he would undertake the "duty of presenting the same to their Secretary Wor. Bro. "John Webberley. He then, in very complimentary "terms, made the presentation, and expressed a hope that "Bro. Webberley might live long to wear it."

"Bro. Webberley, from whom the presentation had "been kept a profound secret, briefly, but very cordially, "thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which they "had shewn their appreciation of his services."

The Lodge again in mourning—for Wor. Bro. Alfred Glover, who was initiated in 1849, W.M. in 1853, Prov. S.G.W. in 1857. He was an enthusiastic Mason, and a helper in all good works.

The last year's balance sheet shewed a balance due to Treasurer of £53 14s. 10d. To help remedy this eight brethren volunteered to lend £5 each until better times appear. The offer was accepted.

Wor. Bro. G. H. Hawley was appointed to represent this Lodge on the Committee of the Masonic Charitable Association.

1875. Bro. Joseph Sherwin was installed W. Master for the ensuing year.

The best thanks of the brethren were accorded to Bro. J. G. Bakewell for set of terra cotta brackets, to Wor. Bro. Patterson for decorating the same, to Wor. Bro. Joseph Sherwin for framing engravings of Masonic Schools, and to Bro. F. W. Grove for three handsome sets of door-plates, &c.

The Wor. D.P.G.M. Bro. Frank James visited the Lodge and delivered the three addresses at the Annual Festival.

Notice was received that the R.W.P.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury intended to hold his quarterly meeting at Longton, and arrangements were made for holding the meeting in the Town Hall. "On that "occasion (April 8th) the R.W.P.G.M. stated that he had "received a communication from Wor. Bro. F. James, "D.P.G.M. (who was unable to be present), strongly "advising that all Lodges and also individual subscribers "should concentrate their voting power for the Masonic "charities, that being the surest means of securing the "election of the local candidates."

"Wor. Bro. Bodenham, in a speech of considerable "length, explained the *modus operandi*, and concluded by "moving: "That a brother be selected by each Lodge in "the province whose duty it would be to collect votes to "be forwarded by him to the brother appointed by P.G. "Lodge to receive the same. Wor. Bro. G. S. Tudor "seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously."

"The Prov. G.M. was pleased to see so large a number "of brethren present from all parts of the province, and "informed the meeting that the arrangements for the "installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W.G. "Master were nearly completed, and invited the brethren "who were fortunate enough to obtain tickets to meet "him on the morning of the 28th inst. at his town resid-"ence, Dover Street, where a luncheon would be provided. "They might there clothe, and special omnibuses would "be provided to convey the brethren to and from the "Albert Hall."

At the close of this meeting a dinner took place in the large room of the Town Hall, at which most of the brethren attended.

Wor. Bro. Sherwin initiated Bro. Aaron Edwards, who, at the moment this is being written, is serving the Borough of Longton for the sixth time as Mayor. His name will appear at many notable functions connected with the borough and county, as well as connected with Freemasonry.

Bro. David Chapman was also initiated by Wor. Bro. Sherwin.

1876. On the occasion of the installation of Bro. B. H. Brough a new set of collars was presented to the Lodge by Wor. Bro. J. F. Wileman, who said "he "believed the present collars had been in wear ever since "the Lodge was established in 1847. He thought a new "set would not be out of place at this time, he therefore "begged the Lodge's acceptance of the collars, which he "now produced."

A Masonic Ball was held early in the year, and proved a great success. The Committee presented to Wor. Bro. John Webberley the sum of £10 10s. to qualify him as Steward at the festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and the Lodge gave a further sum of five guineas to add to his list.

Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince was appointed to represent the Lodge upon the Committee of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association.

1877. James Glover Bakewell was installed W.M. During his year of office he initiated six, among whom the most noted is Bro. George C. Kent, whose name appears in the front rank of our members, as will be seen in the coming years.

Wor. Bro. G. H. Hawley, who had been appointed to represent the Lodge on the Committee of P.G.L. to decide upon the disposal of the Shrewsbury Fund, reported in February, 1877:— "That the whole of the money in the "above fund had been voted towards the purchase of a "Life Scholarship in the Masonic Institution for Boys, "and further sums had been voted from the funds of P.G. "Lodge, and, in order to complete the purchase, a sub-"scription of about £7 from each Lodge in the province "would be required, which sum he had guaranteed to "obtain on behalf of this Lodge." Notice of motion was given for next Lodge, when this resolution was carried:—

"That the sum of eight pounds and five shillings, "being the amount required from the Etruscan Lodge "towards the proposed Shrewsbury presentation to the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, be voted out of the "funds of the Lodge."

The death of our R.W.P.G.M. Earl Shrewsbury, which occurred May 11th, was a great blow to the Etruscan Lodge, as it was to the whole of the province. In the half dozen years he had ruled over us he had endeared himself to all, from the oldest Past Master to the youngest initiate. Whilst maintaining perfect discipline, he was always open, free, and easily approachable. His labours on behalf of charity and benevolence were unceasing. On one occasion, at a banquet, when the champagne corks were popping merrily around, he said: "Brethren, while "we are enjoying ourselves we should not forget that "many of our needy brethren are in want of our help, and, "if we can afford to drink champagne, we can afford to "give something to charity. I will pass round my glove, "give much or little, as you think fit." This was done, and about ten pounds was realised.

The letter of condolence from the Lodge to the Countess of Shrewsbury expresed the feelings of each member:—

"To the Right Honourable the Countess of Shrewsbury.

"May it please your ladyship, we, the W.M., Wardens, "and brethren of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons "desire very respectfully to offer you our heartfelt "sympathy and condolence on the sudden and great "affliction with which it has pleased the Most High to "visit you by the death of your beloved husband, our "kindhearted and deservedly popular Right Worshipful "Provincial Grand Master.

"Whilst to you the loss is irreparable, we beg to "assure you that the decease of a brother so noble in "rank, so charitable and kindly disposed, so beneficient "without ostentation, and so genial and frank without "condescension or patronage, is a source of poignant grief "to every individual Mason.

"We trust that the expressions of our deepest "sympathies with you in your great grief may afford you "some slight consolation, and that the Almighty Ruler of "the Universe may vouchsafe His aid and soothe your "distress in this the hour of your heavy affliction is the "ardent and sincere prayer of every member of this Lodge.

"We have the honour to remain, on behalf of the "brethren,

"Your Ladyship's most faithful and obedient servants,

"J. G. BAKEWELL, W.M., 546.
"C. B. ALLERTON, S.W.
"BENJ. PROWSE, J.W.
"JOHN WEBBERLEY, Secretary.."

Her ladyship replied:—

"RENDLESHAM, WOODBRIDGE,
"*24th May, 1877.*

"SIR,

"May I ask you to be good enough to convey to the "Master, wardens and brethren of the Etruscan Lodge "of Freemasons my sincere thanks for their kind "sympathy and condolence with me in my deep sorrow; "for their prayer for my comfort and support in the future, "and for their most feeling expressions of affection and "respect for my husband.

"I can only say that though at present I feel quite "unable to take any active part in business, my sympathies "and good wishes will always be with the numberless good "and charitable works of Freemasons, to promote which "to the best of his ability it was always my husband's "desire.

"I remain, faithfully yours,
"T. SHREWSBURY.

"To J. Webberley, Esq."

1878. During the Mastership of Wor. Bro. C. B. Allerton the brethren were informed that the Corporation of Longton, having purchased the gasworks, had paid for the gas shares held by the Lodge, the original cost of which was £420, bearing interest at seven per cent.—the cash now received, viz.: £601 2s. 6d., enabled the Treasurer to pay off the mortgage—£550—on the Lodge premises, and £61 to several members of the Lodge who had advanced money during the financial depression.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO
THE LATE LORD SHREWSBURY,
Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire, 1871-77.

The brethren were now in the proud position of owning the freehold of the Lodge premises, without any incumbrance.

A vote of thanks was given to the Treasurer and to those brethren who had assisted him with loans of money.

A communication was, at this time, received from Grand Lodge, giving the report of a Committee appointed to consider the recent action of the Grand Orient of France, who had rescinded the first and second paragraphs of its constitution, which formerly stood thus:—

Freemasonry, an institution essentially philantrophic, philosophical and progressive, has for its object the enquiry after truth, the study of universal morality, sciences and arts, and the practice of benevolence.

1. Its principles are the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and human solidarity.
2. It regards liberty of conscience as the common right of every man, and excludes no person on account of his belief.

The laws No. 1 and 2 now stand as follows:—

1. Its principles are absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity.
2. It excludes no person on account of his belief.

The Grand Lodge of England viewed with profound regret the step taken by the Grand Orient of France in removing those paragraphs which assert a belief in the existence of the Great Architect of the Universe, because such an alteration is opposed to the traditions, practice and feelings of all "true and genuine" Masons from the earliest to the present time, and the Grand Lodge, whilst anxious to receive the brethren of any foreign Grand Lodge whose proceedings are conducted according to the ancient landmarks of the Order, of which the belief in the Great Architect of the Universe is the first and most important, cannot recognise as "true and genuine" brethren any who have been initiated in Lodges which either deny or ignore that belief.

Wor. Masters are enjoined not to admit any foreign brother as a visitor unless:

1st. He is duly vouched for, or unless his certificate shows that he has been initiated according to the ancient rites and ceremonies in a Lodge possessing belief in the Great Architect of the Universe; and

2nd. Not unless he himself shall acknowledge that this belief is our essential landmark of the Order.

The above is only a synopsis of the report which is entered in full on the minutes, in accordance with instructions from Grand Lodge.

In December Wor. Bro. J. F. Wileman resigned the office of Treasurer, having served in that capacity for eight years, in an admirable manner. A vote of thanks was passed and entered on the minutes. Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair was elected Treasurer by ballot the same date.

Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince announced that the son of our late Bro. Herbert Allen had been successful at the recent election for the Boys' School.

1879. During the Mastership of Bro. Benj. Prowse it was decided to erect a tablet in the Lodge to the memory of our late P.G.M. the Earl of Shrewsbury. The cost of the tablet now in the Lodge was subscribed by the brethren. It was manufactured by Minton, Hollins & Co., Stoke-on-Trent. On the upper part is the crest and coat-of-arms, with the motto: "Prest d'accomplir," partly encircled by the collar of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, with several jewels attached, with the inscription:

Charles John, 19th Earl of Shrewsbury,
Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire,
Installed at Stafford, October 5th, 1871,
Died May 11th, 1877.

1880. Bro. Thos. H. Griffiths installed Wor. Master, and, during his term of office he initiated Bros. Stephen and Alfred Mear, who have risen to eminence and dis-

tinction in the Craft. Bro. Robert Kent was initiated by Bro. Griffiths.

1881. On the occasion of the installation of Bro. Thos. Blair, Bro. Chapman presented to the Lodge a finely executed portrait of our late P.G.M. the Earl of Shrewsbury, painted by Mr. J. Rouse on an earthenware plaque, and enclosed in a handsome gilt frame.

The Lodge was informed by letter from the Grand Secretary Bro. Shadwell H. Clerke, and dated February 6th: That the M.W. the Grand Master had been pleased "to appoint Major George Singleton Tudor Provincial "Grand Master for Staffordshire." The Lodge sent hearty congratulations to the R.W. Brother on his appointment.

This was a very happy appointment, as Wor. Bro. Tudor had made himself very popular in the province during the five years he had held the office of D.P.G.M. His reply to the Lodge is as follows:—

FORT ST. GEORGE,
LAPLEY, PENKRIDGE,
11th February, 1881.

DEAR SIR AND WOR. MASTER,

I beg to thank you and the members of the Etruscan Lodge for their kind congratulations on my appointment. It is very pleasing to me to find that the appointment is satisfactory to so many brethren.

I have been astonished at the number of letters I have received, but it will be great support to me in my endeavours to do my duty to the advantage of the province over which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been pleased to appoint me.

Yours fraternally and faithfully,

GEO. S. TUDOR,
P.G.M., Stafford.

To Bro. T. Blair,
W.M., 546.

An offer was made by the Etruscan Chapter of R.A. Freemasons to give one-third of the cost of an organ to become the property of and kept in repair by the Lodge,

to be used by the Chapter whenever required at its meetings. This was accepted by the Lodge, and the present instrument was purchased at a cost of £18.

A Lodge of Emergency was called September 28th to present an illuminated address from the Etruscan Lodge and the Etruscan Chapter to Wor. Bro. F. S. Wright, who had for twenty years been an active member of the Lodge, on the occasion of his retiring from business and leaving the neighbourhood in consequence of ill health.

The W.M. presented the address, of which the following is the text:—

To Worshipful Brother Septimus Wright, P.M. and P.P.J.G.D. of Staffordshire, P.Z. of the Etruscan Chapter and P.P.G.J.

We, the undersigned officers of the Etruscan Lodge and of the Royal Arch Chapter, on behalf of the brethren and companions, with feelings of the tenderest sympathy and the fondness of friendship desire to express our deepest regret that impaired health compels you to terminate your residence amongst us, to seek a new home in a more genial clime in the south As a member of the Etruscan Lodge your fidelity of purpose and constant and punctual attention raised you through every successive stage of office to the attainment of the desire of every true Mason's heart, the honour of presiding over the workings and deliberations of your Mother Lodge, and so creditably and efficiently was your work performed that your elevation to the dignity of office in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire was well merited and nobly attained.

Your subsequent devotion to the interests of Masonry in the Royal Arch Chapter was so marked that your companions conferred on you the highest dignity it was in their power to offer. We, therefore, cannot allow so worthy and faithful a brother to leave us without expressing our feelings of deep sorrow and our liveliest hopes that the Great Architect of the Universe may restore you to your accustomed health and long preserve your life to be a comfort to those who are near and dear to you. We hope we need not assure you that your presence will be

greatly missed from amongst us, and that you will bear with you to your new home our hearty good wishes and most fraternal regards.

Signed on behalf of the Etruscan Lodge,

THOMAS BLAIR, W.M.
JAMES M. DARWIN, S.W.
GEORGE BENNION, J.W.
JOHN WEBBERLEY, P.M., P.P.G.P., Secretary.

Signed on behalf of the Etruscan Royal Arch Chapter,

THOMAS TURNER, Z.
JNO. PAYNE HALL, H.
JAMES GLOVER BAKEWELL, J.
JOHN PRATT, Junior, E.

After short speeches from several brethren, Wor. Bro. Wright, who was visibly affected, thanked the brethren for the good feeling expressed in the address, and, although leaving the town, he hoped still to continue a member of the Etruscan Lodge.

"The loving cups were introduced, and the health of "Bro. Wright was heartily drunk by every brother "present."

Wor. Bro. Foster Gough, D.P.G.M., visited the Lodge in his official capacity, and bestowed encomiums on the working, the muster of brethren, but especially on the Secretary. "He congratulated the Lodge upon having so "able a Secretary as they had in his dear old friend Bro. "Webberley, whose manner of keeping the minutes and "other duties of the secretariat was all that could be "desired; his books and accounts were always remarkable "for their clearness, correctness and precision."

The W.M. had a successful year of office, having had seven initiates and installed his successor.

1882. Bro. James M. Darwin.

Great regret was expressed and a letter of sympathy sent to the Rev. Adam Clarke on the occasion of his serious illness.

Bro. Thos. H. Griffiths resigned the position of "Lodge representative" to the Staffordshire Masonic

Charitable Association, and received the best thanks of the Lodge for the excellent services he had rendered to the Lodge and to the Association. Bro. A. G. Prince accepted the office thus vacated.

The Lodge Room and furniture were let to the Mark Masters' Lodge for £5 5s. per annum. Bro. Edwin Clarke presented three volumes of Masonic Works by the late Bro. Dr. Oliver to the Lodge.

1883. Soon after the installation of Bro. George Bennion a Masonic Ball took place, which resulted in a profit of £12 5s. 2d.; a further sum of £1 1s. received from Bro. Tompkinson, of Burslem, made the total £13 6s. 2d.

Bro. Arden Hardwicke, Borough Surveyor, who was leaving the neighbourhood, was presented with a Master Mason's Jewel as a small token of the esteem in which he was held by his brethren.

Bro. Geo. C. Kent was thanked for the presentation to the Lodge of portraits of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.G.W. Master, and of the R.W.P.G. Master Bro. G. S. Tudor.

The circular for 12th July states:—"In the event of "all the candidates presenting themselves refreshments "will be provided on the premises at about 7-30." The Lodge was called at six o'clock—one hour earlier than usual—there being three raisings and one passing. It was considered necessary to have a halfway house to bait at.

In September the brethren were grieved to hear of the death of Wor. Bro. F. S. Wright, and a letter of condolence and sympathy was forwarded to his widow.

A similar letter was sent to the widow of Bro. Wm. Bentley, whose death occurred at this time.

1884. Bro. David Chapman was installed according to ancient custom.

The Lodge was again in mourning for our late Bros. E. Palmer and F. J. Allerton.

It was proposed and carried in October last that a Masonic Ball be held during the winter. In December a

THE LATE

WOR. BRO. JOHN WEBBERLEY, P.P.G.R.

resolution was passed: "That in consequence of the many "family bereavements sustained by members of the "Lodge the resolution of October in reference to a ball "be rescinded." Later on the question arose that notice of motion for rescinding a resolution should have been given. Notice was accordingly given, the motion was made and carried, but, unfortunately, it stated that the resolution of December should be "struck out." There was no difference of opinion or feeling in the matter, all were agreed, but again, unfortunately, the offending resolution was actually "struck out: ruled through." Some of the elder brethren ought to have remembered what was laid down clearly by the R.W.P.G.M. Bro. Col. Vernon in 1860, viz.: "What has been entered in the minutes cannot be expunged."

Letters were received from the Grand Secretary and P.G. Secretary ordering Masonic mourning to be worn for our late Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany. Letters of condolence and sympathy were sent to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany.

Wor. Bro. John Webberley was congratulated on being promoted to P.G.R. in P.G. Lodge, recently held at Hanley.

The Secretary stated that the Lodge of Benevolence had granted the sum of £30 to Wor. Bro. Robert Hill.

Bro. Thomas Turner presented four framed photographs of the interior of the Lodge.

A resident in Longton was proposed as a candidate, against whose moral character or position there was no question, but for reasons which the W.M. considered good and sufficient his candidature was withdrawn by him at the next Lodge. It came to the knowledge of the Lodge, however, that the same person was proposed at another Lodge and would be initiated there very shortly, and this without any enquiry as to character or the reason why his name was withheld from the ballot at Longton. A long correspondence ensued between the W.M., the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M. and the W.M. of the other Lodge, resulting in the frank avowal of the latter that, though enquiries

had been made of various individual members of the Etruscan Lodge which he, at the time, thought sufficient, but that due enquiry, *i.e.*, from the W.M., had not been made.

1885. Bro. Geo. C. Kent was installed by his predecessor, who performed the whole of the ceremony with the exception of the working tools, which he deputed to Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths.

The thanks of the Lodge were accorded to Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, W.M., for his gift to the Lodge of three sets of gauntlets for the W.M. and the S. and J. Wardens.

Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince having signified his intention of representing the Lodge as Steward at the ensuing festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and notice of motion having been given, it was at the next Lodge unanimously passed: "That the sum of £13 6s. 2d., "the proceeds of the last Masonic Ball, be increased out "of the funds of the Lodge to twenty guineas to be added "to Wor. Bro. Prince's list on that occasion."

On the 9th April the R.W.D.P.G.M. paid a surprise visit to the Lodge, and found our W.M. very busy, having a candidate in the third degree, one in the second, and two in first. The work was excellently performed, and merited the ecomiums of the D.P.G.M.

Later in the year Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince reported that he had represented the Province of Staffordshire as Steward at the Annual Festival of the Boys' School, and thanked the Lodge and all brethren who had subscribed to his list, which amounted to £175 5s., this sum being fifth or sixth on the Stewards' list. Wor. Bro. Prince received the thanks of the Lodge for the admirable manner in which he had served the office. In November the following resolution was passed: "That the members "of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons desire to express "their sincere sympathy with their esteemed brother the "Rev. Adam Clarke in his present affliction, with an "earnest hope that the Great Architect of the Universe "may be pleased speedily to restore him to his accustomed "health, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to him."

Wor. Bro. Kent had a very successful year of office, having had six initiates, among whom the most noted was Bro. Henry Mountford Williamson.

Wor. Bro. Kent installed his successor, Bro. Frederick Barlow, performing the whole of the ceremony himself.

1886. The death of our much beloved Chaplain, the Rev. Adam Clarke, occurred on the 16th January; he had been Rector of St. James's since 1863. His decease was received with the deepest regret, not only in Longton, but over a much wider area, where his useful and magnanimous life had evoked feelings of warm admiration and regard towards him. His earnest solicitude for the moral well-being of the town and a practical sympathy ever manifested towards the sick and suffering guided him in all his efforts. The best memorial of his philanthrophic zeal is supplied by the existence of the Cottage Hospital, an admirable institution which has been of incalculable advantage to the town and neighbourhood, the establishment, maintenance and welfare of which seemed to be one of the objects to which our late Bro. Clarke devoted his chief energies.

> "A better priest I trow that nowhere none is,
> He waited after no pomp in reverence,
> He maked him no spiced conscience."
>
> —*Chaucer.*

Our Lodge was also in mourning for Bro. John H. Hawley and Bro. Stephen Mear, senior, both highly respected and prominent citizens of Longton; and again upon the death of our kind-hearted and genial Past Master Bro. J. M. Darwin.

Wor. Bro. Barlow had one notable initiate in his year of office, viz.: Bro. J. Mervyn Wood, whose name appears in later years in high position.

1887. Bro. Albert S. Walters was W.M. A letter from the M.W. Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Carnarvon on the subject of a Masonic celebration of Her Majesty's approaching jubilee was replied to in the terms of the following resolution:—

"That the members of the Etruscan Lodge heartily

"approve of the proposed meeting of Freemasons in "London in the month of June for the purpose of cele-"brating the jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, and would "be in favour of the admission fee for members of the "more distant provinces not to exceed one guinea."

The Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen was celebrated by a great meeting of Freemasons at the Albert Hall, London, where nearly 8,000 assembled, presided over by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master the Prince of Wales, when an address of congratulation was forwarded to Her Majesty from her faithful subjects the Freemasons of England, who ever bear in mind those two great watchwords of the Order, as stated by H.R.H. at his installation, namely: "Loyalty and charity."

A subscription of two guineas was voted towards the cost of erecting a memorial window in the Parish Church of St. James' to the memory of our late Bro. the Rev. Adam Clarke. "The Wor. Master stated that at the "invitation of the Rector of Longton, the Rev. G. F. "Tamplin, he, with his officers and a number of brethren, "joined a public procession, wearing Masonic clothing, "on Sunday, the 26th June, for the purpose of attending "a Queen's Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at St. James's "Church, the necessary dispensation for wearing Masonic "clothing having previously been obtained from the "P.G.M."

The sum of five guineas was voted out of the funds of the Lodge as a donation towards the completion of the Queen's Park. The proposition was opposed by a few on the ground that the object was neither Masonic nor charitable, and that it would create a precedent. The Lodge was honoured by a visit from the Wor. D.P.G.M. Bro. Foster Gough, who complimented the W.M. and his officers on the excellence of their working. Wor. Bro. Walters initiated two brethren who have achieved distinction, viz.:—Bros. Geo. E. Walters and J. E. Hodson.

1888. The installation of Bro. Stephen Mear brought a good muster of brethren, including many visitors.

The following appears in the minutes under date June, 1888:—

"After the transaction of the ordinary business the "W.M. in the chair stated that the majority of the brethren "were aware of the fact that at the Prov. Grand Lodge "recently held at Stafford a very highly esteemed member "of this Lodge had had the distinguished appointment "conferred upon him of Provincial Senior Grand Warden. "He congratulated Bro. Blair on his appointment, and "stated that a Past Prov. Senior Grand Warden's Jewel "had been procured, with the following inscription "engraved thereon: 'Presented to Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair "'by a few members of the Etruscan Lodge to com-"'memorate his well-merited appointment to the office of "'Provincial Senior Grand Warden of Staffordshire.—14th "'June, 1888.'"

"After other complimentary remarks from the Secre-"tary, Wor. Bros. A. G. Prince, T. H. Griffiths, T. Turner "and W. Tunnicliffe, Bro. Blair, in thanking the brethren, "stated that he was entirely taken by surprise by this "unexpected act of theirs. He had not anticipated any "further promotion in P.G. Lodge. He was deeply grate-"ful to the brethren for their kind expressions, and also "for the valuable jewel he had received at their hands."

Wor. Bro. E. V. Greatbatch, I.P.M., Menturia 418, attended and asked permission of the W.M. to bring under the notice of the brethren a tabulated statement, which he had compiled, showing that the cost of education and maintenance of each boy in the Boys' School was far in excess of the cost in other similar institutions. Quoting the Commercial Travellers' and other schools, his idea was that an enquiry should be made in the matter, and he was supported by many of the brethren, including Wor. Bro. Frank James, P.D.P.G.M. He, Bro. Greatbatch, had visited nearly all the Lodges in the north of the province, the great majority of whom had elected a brother to be a member of a committee to make the suggested enquiry; his presence here was for the purpose of asking the brethren to appoint one of their number to act on the committee if they agreed with his views.

After some remarks by Wor. Bros. Tunnicliffe and Prince, the latter was appointed to represent this Lodge on the Committee.

This movement led to a great reform in the management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, for which every English Mason ought to be thankful to Wor. Bro. Greatbatch and to those who acted with him.

1889. Bro. P. H. Bennion was installed by his predecessor.

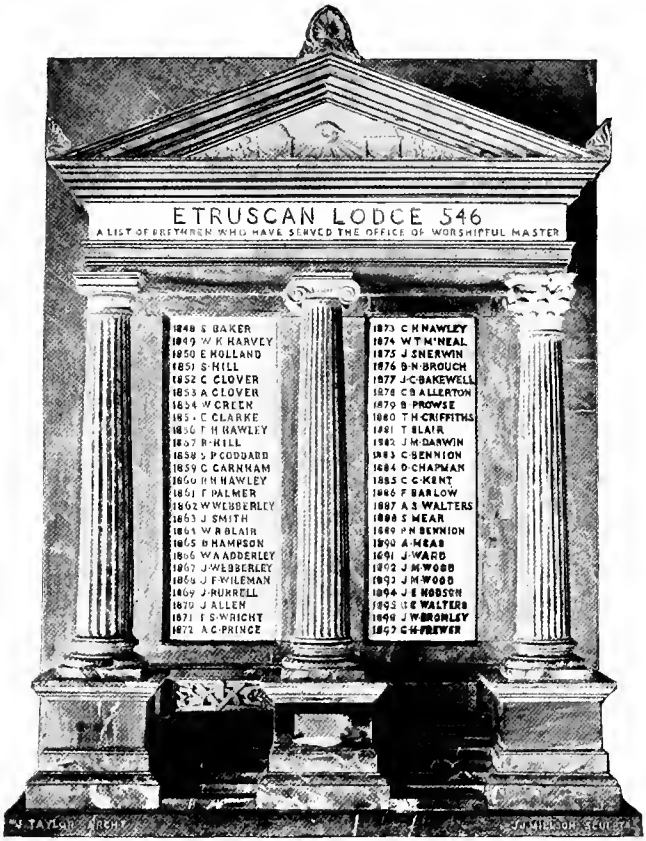
Our esteemed Prov. Grand Master having resigned his position in 1888, in consequence of failing health, the province was in charge of the D.P.G.M. Wor. Bro. Foster Gough, as acting Prov. G.M., a notice of motion was given: "That, in the opinion of this Lodge, it is desirable that "steps should be taken by petition to the M.W.G. Master, "or such other course as may be deemed best, to secure "the appointment of some brother of rank and high social "position as the Grand Master of this province."

This was alluded to by the Acting Pro. G.M. at the next meeting at which he attended. It appeared that endeavours were made to secure the services of H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor. Failing in that quarter Lord Burton was applied to, but, unfortunately, his lordship was unable to give the requisite time. In the course of his further remarks he said it was his usual custom to expect to see a ceremony performed when visiting the Etruscan Lodge, but, being assured by his P.S.G.W. that the W.M. and officers were well up to their work, and, seeing from the circular that an interesting presentation was to take place, he would not ask for any ceremony.

The W.M. Bro. P. H. Bennion stated that the next business was the presentation by Wor. Bro. Stephen Mear, I.P.M., of a handsome marble tablet, containing the names of all the Past Masters of the Lodge from its consecration. He then called on the donor to make the presentation.

Wor. Bro. Mear then unveiled and presented the tablet to the Lodge.

The design is very beautiful. It is in the form of a temple, supported by three pillars of the three great orders in architecture, namely:—The Doric, the Ionic, and the Corinthian, the artist being Bro. John Taylor,



TABLET PRESENTED BY

WOR. BRO. STEPHEN MEAR, P.P.G.R.

the work being executed in the studio of Bro. J. J. Millsom, of Manchester.

The best thanks of the Lodge were given to Wor. Bro. Mear for his handsome and beautiful gift. This was warmly supported by several Past Masters and by the acting P.G.M., who heartily congratulated both the Lodge and Bro. Mear.

The Lodge, by the Wor. Master's command, adjourned from labour to refreshment, when the loving cups were introduced and Wor. Bro. Mear's health was drunk, the interval giving the brethren an opportunity of more closely inspecting the tablet. After a short interval the brethren were called back to labour.

The W.M. called upon Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair, who stated that the W.M., Wardens and Past Masters had determined not to allow this occasion to pass without presenting Bro. Mear with a small memento of his generous gift to the Lodge. He was therefore deputed to hand to Bro. Mear a gold Past Master's Jewel, bearing the following inscription:—

"Presented by the W.M., Wardens, and Past Masters "of the Etruscan Lodge, No. 546, to Wor. Bro. S. Mear "on the occasion of his handsome gift to the Lodge of a "tablet containing the names of all the Past Masters in "consecutive order from its consecration."—14th March, 1889.

Bro. Blair then attached the jewel to the breast of Bro. Mear amidst the applause of the brethren.

Bro. Mear briefly, but warmly, thanked Bro. Blair and the brethren who had so kindly deputed him to make the presentation.

Bro. John Taylor was thanked for providing the excellent design, and for superintending the carrying out and fixing of the tablet. In the list of visitors who favoured the Lodge with their presence on this occasion we find the name of our much respected brother, W. H. Hales, P.M. 418, P.P.S.G.W.

A letter from the Grand Secretary to the Wor. Master, dated March 19th, 1889, informing him that the

Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to appoint Col. Alexander C. Foster Gough, LL.D., Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire.

This was hailed with delight by the brethren, who considered that the right man was in the right place, and hearty congratulations were sent to the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master.

One of the first public acts of the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master was to assist in laying the foundation stone of the (new) Longton Cottage Hospital.

A special meeting of the P.G. Lodge was held in the Wesleyan School, and the brethren, to the number of nearly two hundred, joined the general procession to the site of the proposed building. The Lewises, who carried the Volume of the Sacred Law, were:—George T. Bennion, Harry S. Brough, Albert W. Griffiths, and Alexander Webberley.

On arriving at the ground, and being all in order, the Mayor (Ald. John Aynsley, J.P.) called upon the Rector (Rev. G. F. Tamplin) to read the first hymn, "O God, our help in ages past," which was sung by the whole company, the choir leading, and, at the conclusion of which, the rev. gentleman offered prayer on behalf of the hospital, invoking the aid of the Almighty to carry forward the good work to a successful issue. His Worship then presented to Mr. Prince, as Chairman of the Board of Directors, a silver trowel, with carved ivory handle, inscribed: "A memorial stone of the new Longton Cottage Hospital was laid by Arthur George Prince, Esq. (P.P.J.G.D.), June 27th, 1889." After carefully adjusting the stone and proving it true by means of the plumb rule, and tapping it at each corner with the mallet, both being made of finely-polished mahogany, and presented together with the trowel, Mr. Prince said he thanked the Mayor and Committee of Management for their kindness in allowing him to take this prominent part in the day's ceremony. Mr. Prince alluded in feeling terms to the late Rector, and the noble part he had taken in first bringing the hospital to light, and trusted that the new building they were that day commencing would take over

the work of the old hospital, and carry it forward successfully. It was, he continued, most gratifying to note that the hospital had been supported by voluntary contributions, of which more than one-half had been given by the working class themselves.

Dr. W. J. Dawes was next presented with a trowel similarly inscribed to that of Mr. Prince. Having satisfactorily laid the stone, Dr. Dawes said: "He felt so very strongly on that red letter day in Longton history that words utterly failed him in which to express his gratitude. Their work was not paraded in courts of justice, but in the quietness of suffering and sickness. So far as he, personally, was concerned, his connection with the hospital commenced at the very beginning, when he was consulted by the late Rev. Adam Clarke; and he then told the Rector that if he could only insure the necessary funds for the building, that the medical men were ready and willing to do their part.—(Applause).

The third trowel was presented to William Webberley, Esq. (P.P.S.G.W.), who proceeded to perform his part in the day's ceremony in a truly workmanlike manner. With evident feeling, he said, that he had been most reluctant to take part in that day's proceedings, having for some time past withdrawn himself from public life. But when he thought of the energy and skill that the Mayor had shown in the successful venture of the Christmas Sale and Fair, he felt that he ought not to stand back on that day, but to do all he possibly could in the matter of forwarding the noble work. In concluding an excellent address, he prayed that the blessing of God would rest upon the hospital they were commencing that day, and that it might prove a blessing to all the inhabitants of Longton for many years to come.

The next part of the ceremony consisted in Mr. Webberley presenting a trowel to His Worship with which to lay the fourth memorial stone, at the same time expressing the fervent wish that the Mayor would live long to take part in similar proceedings to those in which they were engaged in that day.

The Mayor, who was warmly applauded, said he need

not tell them how pleased he was to be present on that memorable occasion. He had taken some part in the Christmas Fair, and trusted they would soon have the work completed, hoping that the moneyed gentlemen of the district would open their hearts and their pockets that this noble work might be fully carried out. His Worship concluded in terms of commendation of the Medical Staff and their assiduous labours for the benefit of all the inmates of the hospital wards. (Cheers.)

His Worship the Mayor then presented Sir Smith Child with the trowel, and, in doing so, said, "It was a very pleasing duty that he had been called upon to perform that day in asking Sir Smith Child to lay the foundation stone of the New Longton Cottage Hospital. Sir Smith Child's name had become a household word in this district, and the whole County of Stafford had reason to be proud that they had such a man amongst them as Sir Smith Child. He (Sir Smith Child) was now over his 81st birthday, and he, the Mayor, trusted they would all live to see Sir Smith Child attain his 100th anniversary, concluding a capital speech by wishing long life and happiness to their noble friend and to the whole of the members of his family (cheers), which were heartily repeated as Sir Smith Child took the trowel in his hand to lay the stone which is placed at the N.E. corner of the central block of the hospital building. The following inscription was carved in the front of the stone:—

THIS CORNER STONE
WAS LAID BY
SIR SMITH CHILD, BART.,
AND TRIED AND PROVED BY
COL. FOSTER GOUGH, LL.D.,
THE R.W.P.G. MASTER MASON OF STAFFORDSHIRE,
JUNE 27th, 1889.
THIS STONE CONTAINS COINS AND PAPERS.

The trowel presented to Sir Smith Child bore the following inscription:—"The foundation stone of the

new Longton Cottage Hospital was laid by Sir Smith Child, Bart., June 27th, 1889." The Borough Arms being at the head of the inscription.

Sir Smith Child, in the course of a long and eloquent address, in which he thanked all who had in any way contributed or assisted in this great work—and they were to be found in the cottage as well as in the mansion—concluded in expressing a fervent hope that by a continued and liberal support of so noble a charity each of its friends and supporters may realize in his own case what the Patriarch Job said of himself: "The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me."

After the workmen had lowered the stone, Sir Smith Child proceeded to prove the same truly laid by means of the plumb rule, and finishing his portion of the laying ceremony by tapping the stone at the four corners. After which a glass bottle, containing the latest issues of the *Longton County Times and Echo*, *Staffordshire Advertiser*, *Staffordshire Sentinel*, and *Staffordshire Knot*, and the two latest Hospital Reports (one containing a copy of the original deed of settlement and a list of the original trustees), was placed in a cavity in the stone by Colonel Foster Gough. In another cavity was placed a small glass jar containing the following coins:—A sovereign for 1889, half-sovereign for 1887, crown piece, four shilling piece, half-crown, florin, shilling, sixpence, threepenny piece, penny, halfpenny, and farthing for the present year.

The P.G. Secretary (Captain Thorne) then handed the engraved plate to Colonel Foster Gough, having first read aloud the following inscription:—"This corner stone was laid by Sir Smith Child; tried and proved by Colonel Foster Gough, LL.D., Provincial Grand Master Mason of Staffordshire, June 27th, 1889." Sir Smith Child then invited the R.W. the P.G. Master of Staffordshire to try and prove the foundation stone.

Previous to doing so, Colonel Foster Gough said it gave much satisfaction to himself and the brethren of the province to assist in this work, according to the forms and ceremonies employed by the ancient craft over which he presided in the province. He then delivered an address,

commencing: "Men and brethren here assembled to behold this ceremony. Know ye all we are lawful Masons, ever true and faithful to the laws of our country, bound by solemn obligation to erect or assist in the erection of handsome buildings to be serviceable to the brethren and mankind who serve God, the Great Architect of the Universe. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which cannot be revealed, secrets that no man has discovered. But these secrets are lawful and honourable, and are not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were intrusted in peace and honour to Masons, in the olden times, and, having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them unimpaired even to the latest posterity. Unless our craft was good and our calling honourable we should not have existed throughout so many centuries, neither should we have had so many illustrious brethren in the Order ever ready to obey our laws and promote our interests. We are assembled here to-day to try and prove this foundation stone, and our first duty as Masons is to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon our work."

The P.G. Chaplain having offered up prayer, the P.G.M. placed himself upon the east side of the stone, with the D.P.G.M. upon his right, the two wardens arranging themselves upon the west side of the stone, four W.M.'s being the bearers of the mallet, corn, wine, and oil; whilst the architect with the plans, and the builder stood conveniently near. The acting P.G.J.W. (Bro. Hales) handed the plumb rule to the P.G.M., who said: "This stone having been tried by the plumb rule, I declare this foundation stone true and upright at its base, and the craftsmen have prepared it true and trusty."

The acting P.G.S.W. (Bro. W. R. Blair) handed the level to the P.G.M., who said: "This foundation stone having been tried by the level, I declare it to be laid true and horizontal, and the craftsmen have laboured diligently."

The square having been handed up by the D.P.G.M., Lt.-Col. Bindley, the P.G.M. said: "This stone having been tried by the square, I declare this foundation stone

to be bounded by right lines and right angles, and that the craftsmen have worked well." The P.G.M. then declared the stone well and truly laid in every particular. He then gave the plans to the builder, exhorting him to be diligent in his work, and to erect the buildings in as quick time as possible, and, in accordance with ancient usage, handed him twenty new shillings to apply for the benefit of the workmen in refreshment after their labours that day. He then scattered corn upon the stone as an emblem of plenty, wine was poured upon it as an emblem of joy and gladness, and oil as an emblem of peace and unanimity, and concluded by wishing every success to the institution which they were erecting. On behalf of the brethren of the province he placed £50 on the stone, which had been collected amongst some of the Lodges. Bro. G. C. Kent (P.P.G. Asst. Secretary) then placed upon the stone a cheque for £1,130, the proceeds of the Christmas Fair and Sale. (This cheque had been specially prepared by Messrs. Hughes & Harber, and will be framed and hung up in the New Hospital.) Other cheques and donations were announced, and then followed one of the most interesting parts of the ceremony—the presentation of purses to the Mayoress (Mrs. Aynsley) to the number of 114, amounting to £512 4s. 8½d., nearly all carried by children, containing the contributions of the workpeople at the various manufactories and collieries in the town and the immediate neighbourhood. The hymn, "All people that on earth do dwell," was sung after the Masonic ceremony, and the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

On returning to the Lodge the W.M. Wor. Bro. P. H. Bennion, on behalf of the brethren of the Etruscan Lodge, presented the Prov. G.M. with a Prov. Grand Master's Jewel, to commemorate his visit to Longton. The jewel bore this inscription:—

"Presented to Right Wor. Bro. F. Gough, P.G. Standard Bearer England, P.G. Master of Staffordshire, by the members of the Etruscan Lodge on the occasion of his assisting Sir Smith Child, Bart., in laying the corner stone of the Longton Cottage Hospital with Masonic ceremonial, 27th June, 1889."

The P.G.M. cordially thanked the brethren for their handsome present; also for the highly creditable manner they had received the P.G. Lodge, and for the hospitable reception of himself and Deputy. After the closing of the Lodge a dinner was held in the Town Hall, presided over by His Worship the Mayor.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. wrote the next day to Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.P.G. Assistant Secretary:—

GRAISLEY, WOLVERHAMPTON,

28th June, 1889.

MY DEAR BRO. KENT,

The Longton Cottage Hospital proceedings yesterday constituted a splendid success. As P.G.M. I beg to offer to your Chairman, the Committee and yourself my very hearty congratulations, as also my sincere thanks for the courteous and excellent arrangements which were made for the reception and services of myself and my officers, as also of my brethren generally. It afforded me the utmost gratification to note that your Chairman and yourself, and at least half of the Committee and officers engaged upon the good work were also officers or members of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Staffordshire.

With best and heartiest wishes for the complete and lasting success of your laudable enterprise,

I remain, my dear Bro. Kent,
Faithfully and fraternally yours,

F. GOUGH, LL.D., P.G.M.

To Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.M., P.P.G.A.S.,
Hon. Sec. of Longton Cottage Hospital Committee.

The sum of ten pounds was voted by the Etruscan Lodge to the Building Fund of the new Cottage Hospital.

At the next Lodge meeting the best thanks were accorded to the Trustees of the Wesleyan School for their kindness in allowing the use of their schools on the visit of Prov. Grand Lodge, and one guinea was voted to the fund for the annual treat to the Sunday School children. Thanks also to the brethren of Menturia Lodge for the

THE LATE

WOR. BRO. A. G. PRINCE, P.P.J.G.D.

use of their carpet; also to the brethren of the Sutherland Lodge of Unity for the use of their working tools.

The Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master visited the Lodge in November and thanked the brethren for the excellent muster at Stafford on the occasion of the annual meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, when he had the honour to be installed as Prov. Grand Master, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to assist at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the New Cottage Hospital, and appreciated very highly the handsome jewel presented to him on that occasion by the members of the Etruscan Lodge.

The Lodge voted £5 to the Mossfield Colliery Explosion Relief Fund.

1890. Bro. Alfred Mear was installed by the retiring W.M. according to ancient custom.

The Lodge in mourning as a mark of respect for our late Wor. Brother G. H. Hawley, P.P.J.G.W., who, during the twenty-four years of his membership had rendered eminent service to the Lodge, causing his loss to be severely felt; a vote of sympathy and condolence was passed to his family.

The sum of five pounds was sent to Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey to assist him in furnishing two rooms, as he is about to return to England.

The R.W.P.G.M. again visited the Lodge in November, and found it going on satisfactorily. The W.M. reported that Bro. Thos. Turner was suffering from severe illness, and moved that a letter of sympathy be sent to him.

1891. Bro. John Ward's installation was attended by a good muster of the brethren of this Lodge, and of eminent brethren of other Lodges. The hand of death was busy amongst us during this year; first, Bro. Thomas Turner, then Wor. Bro. F. H. Hawley and R. H. Hawley, brothers in the flesh and brothers in the Craft, who, as Past Masters and officers in various positions, had borne the heat and burden of the day, and rendered great service to the Lodge during a period of forty years.

A letter of sympathy was sent to Wor. Bro. John Webberley, P.P.G.R., in his illness, expressing the hope that he would soon be restored to health and be able to resume those duties he had so faithfully performed for so many years past.

In June the R.W.P.G.M. visited, and stated that the work of the W.M. and his officers merited his unqualified approbation, that there was very little difference between the working of the Etruscan Lodge and the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which he was desirous to introduce into the province.

Wor. Bro. Blair read a letter he had received from Wor. Bro. W. K. Harvey, P.P.G.M., to the effect that he was going to reside again in Geneva, and, as he had no further use for his Masonic Regalia, he forwarded them to Bro. Blair to be presented to the Etruscan Lodge for safe keeping.

The attention of the Lodge was called to the trusteeship of the Lodge property, the deeds of which were now in the hands of Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, when Wor. Bros. J. F. Wileman, W. R. Blair, John Webberley, A. G. Prince and Geo. C. Kent were appointed Trustees.

The R.W.P.G.M. visited the Lodge in November. He was thoroughly and completely satisfied with his visit, and congratulated the brethren with the harmony which existed in their midst.

1892. Bro. J. Mervyn Wood's installation took place in January. He is a notable figure in the Etruscan, being the only brother who has been elected to the chair for two years consecutively, thereby establishing his character as an excellent Mason.

In February the brethren throughout the world were grieved to hear of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, Past Grand Warden of England. A letter was sent from the Etruscan Lodge to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, and H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, expressing deep sympathy with their Royal Highnesses in their great sorrow.

On the same evening the brethren are informed of

the sudden death of the highly esteemed Prov. Grand Master Bro. Foster Gough. A resolution was passed expressing their sincere regret and sorrow, a copy of which was sent to his nearest relatives. His loss was severely felt, not only by this Lodge, but by the whole of the Province of Staffordshire. His great knowledge and love of Masonry; his desire to promote its best interests; his kindly and genial manner had endeared him to all; his intimate knowledge of the life and workings of the Staffordshire Lodges, and the great friendship existing between him and all the old and leading brethren of the province, will cause his name to be long remembered and his absence deplored.

At the November meeting the brethren had notice of the removal to the Grand Lodge above of Bro. Wm. Webberley, P.P.S.G. Warden. He was at the time of his death the oldest subscribing member and Past Master of the Lodge. His name will be missed not only on the roll of members of the Etruscan Lodge, but on the subscription lists of the local charities and other institutions in the neighbourhood and elsewhere.

Bro. W. K. Harvey's (Past Prov. Grand Master) death occurred at Geneva, November 29th, and is reported to the Lodge December 8th. A letter of sympathy and condolence was sent to his widow. He was one of the founders of the Lodge, the second Wor. Master, and an able and painstaking Mason. He was unknown personally to the majority of the younger brethren, as he had not attended Lodge for many years, but his memory remained green amongst the elders. An excellent full-length portrait hangs in the Lodge Room at the back of the Master's chair.

Although little has been said for many pages of the charitable deeds of the Lodge, and of its brethren, the same steady flow continued without cessation to public charities, to the great Masonic charities, as well as to deserving private individuals.

1893. Wor. Bro. J Mervyn Wood was duly installed for the second time by Wor. Bro. John Ward. On February 9th, after much discussion, it was resolved to increase

the initiation fee to ten guineas, and the joining fee to three guineas, and steps were taken to alter the bye-laws in accordance with the said resolution.

It was unanimously agreed to support the Freemasons of Stone in their petition to Grand Lodge for the constitution of a new Lodge, to be called "St. Michael's." A Warrant was granted by Grand Lodge and the consecration of St. Michael's took place on the 29th September, the first Wor. Master being Wor. Bro. J. Mervyn Wood.

The office of Prov. G.R. was conferred on Wor. Bro. Wood at the Prov. Grand Lodge, an honour which was well deserved. He had done excellent work in the Etruscan Lodge, initiating fourteen candidates, several of whom became in after years prominent in the Lodge. He completed his work by installing his successor, Bro. James E. Hodson, and performing the whole of the ceremony himself.

1894. A letter was received from the Grand Secretary announcing the appointment of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth as Prov. Grand Master for Staffordshire. This was hailed with great satisfaction, and a letter of congratulation was ordered to be sent to him, to which he replied, thanking the brethren of the Etruscan Lodge for their congratulation and assuring them that he would fulfil the duties of the high position to the best of his ability. A Provincial Grand Lodge was called by the Wor. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bindley, G.D. Eng., D. Prov. Grand Master, in charge of the province, for the installation of Wor. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth at Wolverhampton, on the 5th June. The Installing Master was the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Pro. Grand Master. A great number of Staffordshire Masons attended to do honour to and to welcome the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master.

A Masonic Ball was held early in the year, which resulted in the loss of £7 18s. 2d., which sum was defrayed by the Lodge.

1895. Wor. Bro. G. E. Walters was installed in the chair of K.S. in January, 1895, and Wor. Bro. John Webberley invested as Treasurer.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Wor. Bros. W. R. Blair and J. Webberley and Bro. Thomas Warren for their long services to the Lodge, and a committee appointed to consider the best means of showing appreciation of those services.

A Masonic Ball was held January 3rd, which proved a success financially and socially. Bro. A. L. Harber, who had acted as Secretary to the Ball Committee, read the report, which showed a profit of £8 18s. 2d. He was very cordially thanked for his efficient services.

Two guineas were voted in aid of the fund for relief of the poor of Longton.

Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths was heartily thanked for his kindness in making an inventory of the furniture, &c., belonging to the Lodge.

In March the report of the Committee, called the Presentation Committee was received, and, in accordance with notice of motion previously given, the sum of £43 —being the estimate for the presentations to Wor. Bros. Blair and Webberley and Bro. Thos. Warren—was agreed to be paid from the funds of the Lodge.

The minutes of the Lodge held May 9th, 1895, are given in extenso. After the circular calling the Lodge and the minutes of the last Lodge had been read, the W.M. (Wor. Bro. G. E. Walters) called upon Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince to read and present an illuminated address to Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair in commemoration of his services as Treasurer of the Lodge for the last seventeen years. The address read as follows:—

"ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

ETRUSCAN LODGE.

"To Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Staffs.

"The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Etruscan Lodge desire to express their regret at your retirement from the post of Treasurer of the Lodge, which you have held for a continuous period of seventeen years.

"They take the opportunity of expressing their appreciation of your long and honourable services both to the Lodge and the craft generally, and of their hope that your example may be handed down as an encouragement to the junior members of the Lodge.

"They further hope that you will continue for many years in active membership of the Lodge of which you are now the oldest subscribing member, and wish you every happiness and prosperity which your long career of usefulness both as a Mason and a citizen so well deserve.

"Signed on behalf of the brethren at a Lodge held on the 9th of May, 1895.

GEORGE E. WALTERS, W.M.
WILLIAM BRICKEL, S.W.
JAS. W. BROMLEY, J.W.
ARTHUR L. HARBER, Secretary."

In making the presentation Wor. Bro. Prince spoke in very feeling terms of his long association with Wor. Bro. Blair in Masonry. Wor. Bro. Blair replied, thanking Wor. Bro. Prince and the brethren for the kindness and good feeling which had been expressed towards him.

The Wor. Master then called upon Wor. Bro. Chapman to make the presentation of a secretary's table to the Lodge in commemoration of Wor. Bro. Webberley's services as Secretary of the Lodge for the last twenty-six years. The table has a silver plate, containing the following inscription:—

"Etruscan Lodge, No. 546.

"To commemorate the long and faithful services of Wor. Bro. John Webberley, P.M., P.P.G.R., Staffordshire, in the position of Secretary of this Lodge, which he occupied for the space of twenty-six years, this table was placed in the Lodge (for the use of future secretaries) upon his retirement, 9th day of May, 1895."

Wor. Bro. Chapman, having made the presentation, spoke in complimentary terms of the way in which Wor. Bro. Webberley had performed the duties of Secretary during the time he had held the office. The W.M. then

presented a Secretary's Jewel to Wor. Bro. Webberley, which had been subscribed for by the Past Masters, officers and brethren of the Lodge, and, in doing so, paid a high tribute to Wor. Bro. Webberley, and expressed the hope that he would be spared for many years to be amongst the brethren of his Lodge and to wear the jewel which had just been presented to him.

Wor. Bro. Webberley, in replying, reviewed the work and progress of the Lodge during the years he had been a member. He thanked Wor. Bro. Chapman for the kindly way in which he had spoken of him, and the brethren for the jewel they had presented to him. He expressed great admiration of the handsome secretary's table placed in the Lodge in commemoration of his services, and complimented Bro. Tindal on the accuracy of the details and the general effect of the work.

The Wor. Master then called upon Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths to present a marble timepiece to Bro. Thomas Warren to commemorate his services as Tyler of the Lodge on the completion of twenty-one years' service. The inscription on the clock was as follows:—

"Etruscan Lodge, No. 546.

"This timepiece was presented to Bro. Thomas Warren to commemorate the completion of twenty-one years' faithful services as Tyler of this Lodge.—May 9th, 1895."

Wor. Bro. Griffiths, in making the presentation, spoke of the high esteem in which all the members of the Lodge held Bro. Warren, and expressed a hope that he would continue to hold for many years to come the position which he had so ably filled during the last twenty-one years.

Bro. Warren, in replying, thanked the brethren for their gift which, he assured them, he would always keep and look upon as one of the most valued things he possessed. He thanked them also for the good feeling towards him expressed by Wor. Bro. Griffiths, and assured them that the uniform kindness extended to him by the whole of the members had helped him to make his duties as Tyler a labour of love.

Wor. Bro. J. E. Hodson then presented a cabinet overmantel to the Lodge to hold the loving cups and the clothing, &c., belonging to our late Bro. W. K. Harvey. The cabinet bears a silver plate inscribed as under:—

"This cabinet presented to the Etruscan Lodge, No. 546, by the officers of the year 1894. J. E. Hodson, W.M.; J. M. Wood, I.P.M.; G. E. Walters, S.W.; W. Brickel, J.W.; W. R. Blair, Treasurer; J. Webberley, Secretary; J. W. Bromley, S.D.; J. S. Boughey, J.D.; Geo. C. Kent, D.C.; W. Garner, Organist; G. H. Frewer, I.G.; A. L. Harber and T. I. Cope, Stewards; T. Warren, Tyler."

The Wor. Master called on Wor. Bro. Bennion to receive the cabinet on behalf of the Lodge. Wor. Bro. Bennion, in accepting the same, thanked Wor. Bro. Hodson and his officers of 1894 for their handsome and useful gift to the furniture of the Lodge.

Wor. Bro. A. S. Walters rose and congratulated Wor. Bro. G. Bennion (on behalf of the Past Masters and members) on his appointment as Provincial Grand Registrar.

Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair then presented Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion with a Registrar's Jewel on behalf of the Past Masters of the Lodge and, in doing so, said that the Right Wor. Provincial Grand Master could not have made any appointment which would have been so deservedly popular in the Etruscan Lodge as the one he had conferred on Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion.

Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion, in replying, thanked the Past Masters for the very handsome jewel they had given him and which had come to him as a great surprise. He also thanked them for their congratulations on his appointment as Prov. Grand Registrar.

Wor. Bro. J. Webberley asked permission of the Wor. Master to present on his own behalf a Master Mason's Jewel to Bro. Thomas Tindal as a mark of his appreciation of the very able way in which he had designed and carried through the work of the secretary's table which had just been placed in the Lodge. The W.M. having given his permission Wor. Bro. J. Webberley formally presented the jewel to Bro. Tindal, who thanked Wor. Bro. Webberley for the gift.

In the unavoidable absence of Wor. Bro. B. H. Brough (in whose name the notice of motion was down in the circular) Wor. Bro. Geo. C. Kent moved, and Wor. Bro. Chapman seconded: "That the Lodge contribute £7 7s. "to Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair's list on the occasion of his "attending the Boys' Institution Festival in the position "of Steward." Before this motion was put to the meeting it was reported that the sum of eight guineas was standing to the credit of the Lodge in the funds of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, whereupon it was resolved: "That the sum of seven guineas be granted "from the Lodge funds in order to secure the transfer of "the full sum of fifteen guineas to Wor. Bro. Blair's list."

There being no further business the Lodge was closed with prayer and the brethren adjourned to the complimentary banquet to Wor. Bros. W. R. Blair and J. Webberley and Bro. Thos. Warren at the Crown and Anchor Hotel. Fifty brethren attended the Lodge, including six visitors.

The Lodge was called for 2-15 p.m. in July to enable the brethren to attend a Masonic Garden Party given by Wor. Bro. George Bennion and Mrs. Bennion at their residence, Blyth House. A great number of the brethren of the Etruscan Lodge and their wives were present, and, with a goodly sprinkling of visitors from other Lodges, enjoyed the hospitality of the genial host and hostess. The afternoon was delightfully spent in the beautiful grounds, and will long be remembered by those who had the pleasure of attending.

A vote of thanks is recorded in the minutes of the next Lodge to Wor. Bro. George Bennion and Mrs. Bennion for their kindness in entertaining the brethren and their wives on the 11th July. In acknowledging the vote Wor. Bro. Bennion said he was glad to know that the brethren and the ladies had enjoyed themselves, as it had given Mrs. Bennion and himself great pleasure to see them all at the garden party.

1896. At the banquet after the installation of Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley (January, 1896) the W.M. presented a silver christening mug to the I.P.M. Wor. Bro. G. E. Walters, on behalf of the officers of the past year, to com-

memorate the birth of his daughter during his year of office, which was suitably acknowledged by Wor. Bro. Walters.

Wor. Bro. B. H. Brough having resigned the position of representative of the Lodge to the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, he was heartily thanked for his services, and Wor. Bro. J E. Hodson was appointed to the position.

At the next Lodge the sum of five pounds was given to a poor and needy but deserving brother, and ten guineas subscribed to the fund promoted by the R.W. Provincial Grand Master for the purchase of a bed in perpetuity in the Wolverhampton Orphan Asylum.

In March five brethren were appointed stewards to represent this Lodge at the proposed festival to be held at Trentham in aid of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, the fee being five guineas each.

At the Lodge in April the W.M. presented Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths with a Past Master's Jewel in the name of the officers, Past Masters and brethren of the Lodge as a token of respect and a slight recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge during the last twenty-five years. No brother deserved this more than Bro. Griffiths, and the wonder was that it was not thought of before, for he has been looked upon as a sort of moveable fixture to be used on every occasion, ready and willing to fill up the gap if an officer was unable to attend, or do anything for the good of Masonry in general or this Lodge in particular.

Ten guineas voted in June for two additional stewards to the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association's Festival, and four brethren volunteered to serve and pay their own fees.

The Festival of the 25th Anniversary of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association took place by kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland in Trentham Gardens on the 15th July, 1896. Everything was propitious—even St. Swithin dried his eyes on the happy occasion. A great number of Freemasons with their wives and friends attended and enjoyed the lovely weather, the

WOR. BRO. T. H. GRIFFITHS, P.P.S.G.W.

beautiful scenery, the fine music and the brilliant company. Eleven members of this Lodge officiated as stewards of the festival, which was a great financial success, as the sum of one thousand guineas was added to the funds of the Association.

In October a Committee of Past Masters, the W.M. and officers of the Lodge was appointed to formulate a scheme for enlargement of the Lodge Room if thought advisable.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Willenhall, October 13th, on the occasion of the Right Worshipful the Prov. Grand Master laying the chief corner stone of the enlargements to the Old Church, Willenhall. The Wor. Master, with a fair muster of brethren, attended to do honour to and support the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master.

The Lodge met in December and decided to give fifty guineas from the Lodge Funds to the Sutherland Technical Institute, Longton, the foundation stone of which is to be laid by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in January next.

The following is extracted from the *Staffordshire Advertiser* of January 9th, 1896:—

As soon as it was announced that the Prince of Wales was coming to Longton to lay the foundation stone of the Sutherland Institute, the members of the Etruscan Lodge of Freemasons (546) began to consider the question of respect being paid by the fraternity to their Grand Master, as well as assistance being rendered in the promotion of such a good object. The proposal was favourably received by the Earl of Dartmouth, R.W.P.G.M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Bindley, W.D.P.G.M. and P.G.D. England, and Masons generally throughout the province. It is a somewhat singular circumstance that about the time it became known that the Grand Master of English Freemasons and future King was coming to North Staffordshire, a member of a literary society should have read a paper in which he denounced Freemasonry as a dangerous secret association. Whatever may be said of other institutions, it must be a misguided notion for

anyone at the present time to imagine that there is anything inimical to the interests of the community in the principles and practice of English Freemasonry. Speaking with a full knowledge of the subject, we are able to say Freemasonry is neither an ecclesiastical nor a political association, and has nothing to do with the disputes of sects or parties; but it aims at developing the virtues of benevolence and good fellowship, and the members of the Craft take a pleasure in declaring that a good Mason cannot be a bad citizen. However they differ in tastes, disposition, education, and occupation, they respect each other in Lodge, and can recognize one another the world over. English Masons have in innumerable instances experienced the advantage of this in far-off lands, and amongst men of various nationalities. The Masonic charitable institutions of England are a standing and sufficient reply to those who, knowing nothing of Freemasonry, are sometimes found trying to decry it. The strength of the Craft was pretty well manifested on Thursday when the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire was held at Longton—on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the Sutherland Institute. The brethren assembled and clothed in Zion Methodist New Connexion Chapel, and then passed into the Queen's Theatre, where Provincial Grand Lodge was opened. Before the opening of the Lodge, Wor. Bro. A. D. Parker, of Lichfield, the Provincial Grand Organist, extemporised during the assembling of the brethren, introducing the National Anthem, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," and a new patriotic song, "God Bless Victoria," written and composed by himself. The stage of the beautiful theatre was used as a platform, and the Earl of Dartmouth, as P.G.M., presided, and was supported by Lieut.-Col. Bindley, D.P.G.M. The wardens' chairs were occupied by Bros. E. V. Greatbatch, acting S.W., before adjourning, and Wor. Bro. Caddick, P.S.G.W., afterwards; W. Tunnicliff, J.W.; and on the platform were the following Prov. G. officers:—J. Bodenham, P.G.S.W. and P.G.A.D.C. England; Bros. A. Reeve, registrar; Lieut.-Col. G. W. Walker, secretary; C. A. Newnham, Treasurer; James Wearing, S.D.; G. Wormal, S.D.; A. D. Parker, P.G. Organist;

W. J. J. W. Heath, J.D.; the Revs. O. M. Holden and A. E. Brisco Owen, chaplains; A. Dewsbury, D.C.; J. M. Willdig, S.B.; J. Mason, S.B.; W. H. Newby, S.B.; Geo. Haynes and Thomas Cox, stewards; and Bro. J. M. M'Leod, Past G.S.B. England.

The following Past Provincial Grand Officers of Staffordshire were present:—

W. R. Blair, 546, S.W; S. Hill, 546, S.W.; W. O. Briggs, 460, S.W.; J. Warrillow, 482, S.W.; J. B. Ashwell, 637, S.W.; J. F. Pepper, 482, S.W.; T. J. Barnett, 526, S.W.; J. B. Piercy, 418, S.W.; J. Bromley, 418, S.W.; T. Taylor, 460, S.W.; C. Graham, 624, S.W.; A. L. Broad, 460, J.W.; R. Dain, 98, J.W.; A. Parker, 456, J.W.; Thomas Bickley, 418, J.W.; E. H. Croydon, 2,149, J.W.; J. Webberley, 546, reg.; W. T. Copeland, 637, reg.; G. Bennion, 546, reg.; G. H. Stanyer, 419, reg.; J. Mervyn Wood, 2,487, reg.; F. Brandon, 418, reg.; R. Tooth, 2,214, reg.; W. J. Downs, 352, chaplain; E. D. Boothman, 2,149, chaplain; L. C. A. Edgeworth, 460, chaplain; V. Litchfield, 1914, chaplain; W. F. Drewry, 626, chaplain; W. T. Bonner, 546, org.; S. Briggs, 624, S.D.; John Fowler, 1,039, S.D.; F. Dally, 426, S.D.; H. R. Smith, 1,838, S.D.; W. H. Bamber, 637, S.D.; J. G. Ainsworth, 460, S.D.; A. G. Prince, 456, J.D.; F. Grove, 637, J.D.; J. Ingamells, 460, J.D.; John Smith, 526, J.D.; W. Hampton, 418, J.D.; G. Ashmall, 1,039, J.D.; J. Powell, 347, supt. of works; A. Newton, 451, supt. of works; J. Hackett, 1,941, supt. of works; B. H. Brough, 546, supt. of works; F. Skerrett, 460, supt. of works; W. H. Bucknall, 460, A.D.C.; T. Owens, 1,520, A.D.C.; H. Ansley, 326, A.D.C.; W. J. Richardson, 498, A.D.C.; W. Eardley, 321, D.C.; W. E. Challinor, 966, A.D.C.; J. Wooldridge, 726, D.C.; J. White, 2,214, A.D.P.; F. T. Beck, 419, D.C.; J. Payne Hall, 546, A.D.C.; G. H. Tortoishell, 456, A.D.C.; T. E. Storey, 451, A.D.C.; W. Broston, 966, A.D.C.; W. E. Massey, 726, assis.-sec.; G. C. Kent, 546, assis.-sec.; G. A. Thomason, 662, assis.-sec.; J. Stevenson, 637, S.B.; E. Martincott, 696, S.B.; C. Oliver, 1,007, S.B.; R. Benbow, 451, S.B.; J. F. Weston, 98, S.B.; J. F. Warburton, 1,914, A. Pur.; T. B. Cull, 1,587, Pur.; W. T. M'Neal, 546, S.B.;

W. Vernon, 1,578, S.B.; J. Littleton, 326, S.B.; J. Godwin, 98, S.B.; J. Smith, 460, S.B.; E. J. Mousley, 726, S.B.; J. T. Howson, 418, S.B.; J. A. Cooper, 1,587, Pur.; S. W. Page, 526, S.B.; Geo. Wilson, 695, S.B.; J. Pierpoint, 98, S.B.; David Jones, 418, steward; Edmund Jones, 418, steward; J. R. Lee, 1,792, S.B.; J. Welsh, 1,587, S.B.; W. Harrison, 267, steward.

The following Worshipful Masters of Staffordshire Lodges were also present:—Bros. Julius Congelon, 526; C. L. Morris, 637; G. E. Farmer, 1,393; J. Knight, 2,064; F. Stonier, 1,914; J. W. Bromley, 546; R. Owen, 98; F. Skerrington, 482; F. Barlow, 1,792; R. Clowes, 966; F. H. Darwin, 1,942; C. W. D. Joynson, 696; G. W. King, 280; E. Harding, 637; J. J. Brierley, 1,144; W. Barker, 526; John Harding, 2,487; J. T. Marson, 726; R. C. Downes, 460; O. M. Holden, 1,520; H. O. Goodwin, 456; W. Brickel, 1,587; W. Skett, 419; Joseph Ridgway, 1,993; S. Fenton, 2,214; C. F. Baker, 418; C. H. Phillips, 2,149.

The following Past Masters of Staffordshire Lodges were in attendance: Bros. T. Tonkinson, 637; W. J. Carr, 418; A. E. Walters, 546; T. Sanders, 98; W. Torrance, 456; T. W. Flannagan, 966; John Clare, 210; S. Scarratt, 368; W. T. Govier, 966; P. H. Bennion, 546; J. H. Lloyd, 526; G. Greenslade, 456; A. T. A. Hardy, 456; T. S. Harvey, 254; M. Garland, 1,520; D. Chapman, 546; Arthur Bailey, 1,914; P. Jackson, 368; J. Hancock, 1,914; J. E. Hodson, 546; John Young, 2,064; E. Nall, 1,914; P. M. Cox, 2,064; T. H. Griffiths, 546; E. Hallam, 1,942; Harold A. Rugg, 624; T. W. Eardley, 460; W. R. Wooldridge, 637; H. R. Strange, 1,942; S. Mear, 546; A. Mear, 546; Thos. Edwards, 460; Eli Alsop, 637; W. Chesworth, 293; English Pearson, 98; J. Allerton, 418; F. Cross, 1,792; A. R. Hulme, 1,792; W. Lester, 482; H. Loveridge, 482; J. R. Lee, 482; G. L. Birch, 2,214; E. E. Allmond, 1,587; J. Copeland, 1,914; J. D. Wassall, 1,838; H. Bagshaw, 456; Hy. Hall, 526; R. H. James, 1,587; Geo. Boulton, 1,155; J. Scarratt, 98; J. Eardley, 637; S. Lawton, 418; John Beardmore, 418; J. Beech, 98; L. Taylor, 2,014; A. Smith, 347; E. W. Smith, 347; C. J. Bowers, 456.

There were many other Masons of different ranks, about 670 of whom signed the Tyler's book, though a large number omitted to do so. Altogether, close on a thousand Masons were present. Amongst the visiting brethren were the following:—C. Oliver, 1,007, P.G.R., Leicestershire; H. R. Giles, 2,131, P.P.S.W., Salop; J. Crosbie-Dawson, P.P.G.D., Warwickshire; E. Furnival, 368, P.P.G.S.B., Cheshire; Edw. Stockton, 353, P.P.G.S.B., Derbyshire; Chas. E. Forsdick, 293, P.P.G.S.B., Cheshire; Thos. Salisbury, 1,909, P.G.S.W., Notts; J. W. Wilson, P.P.G. Chaplain, Leicestershire; W. Copping, 536, Bosnia, U.S.A.; Herbert W. Davies, 3, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; W. Knock, 668, Sandbach, Cheshire.

After the Lodge had been formally opened, the Earl of Dartmouth and Col. Bindley were duly saluted according to Masonic custom, and the same compliment was paid to the officers of the Grand Lodge of England. The Provincial Grand Master then moved that an address of welcome be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales from his brethren of Staffordshire. The address was agreed to at once, and the brethren then adjourned to the streets, formed a procession, and marched by way of Market Street and Stafford Street to the site where the ceremony of the day was to be performed by the Prince of Wales. The wording of the address and a full description of it are given in our account of the public reception of the Prince.

In the afternoon a Masonic luncheon was provided at the Town Hall, under the Presidency of the Earl of Dartmouth. About 160 brethren were present. Bro. G. H. Frewer, of the Heathcote Arms Hotel, furnished an excellent repast. The toast list was as follows:—"The Queen," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master;" "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Most Wor. Pro. Grand Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge present and past;" "The Right Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth, Right Wor. Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire;" "The Wor. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bindley, P.G.D. (Eng.), Deputy P.G.M. of Staffordshire, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge present and past;" "The Visitors." Selections of music were played at

intervals by the Scarlet Anglo-Hungarian Band (by kind permission of J. Lyons & Co., Limited), London.

On the adjournment of the Lodge, the procession was marshalled by Mr. W. Cooke, an old and valued official of the borough, and proceeded to the site in the following order:—

MUNICIPAL PROCESSION.

Mounted Police.

The Longton Town Military Band.

Fire Brigade (first portion of) in open order.

Borough Magistrates (who are not members of the Town Council) and Justices' Clerks.

Mayors and Town Clerks of other Boroughs.

The Borough Surveyor. The Borough Accountant.

The Gas Manager.

The Chaplain. The Borough Treasurer.

The Medical Officer.

The ex-Mayor. The Mayor. The Town Clerk.

Aldermen (three abreast).

Councillors (three abreast).

Fire Brigade (second portion of) in open order.

Borough Band.

The order of the Masonic procession was juniors in front till the site was reached, when they opened out and entered the tent in reversed order, seniors in front. Eight Lewises—sons of Masons—attired in white surplices, carried the Volume of the Sacred Law:—Robert G. Blair, Geo. E. Fisher, Wilfred Forester, Chas. H. Frewer, James W. Bromley, W. R. Williams, Geo. Owen Bennion and W. Roy Rochell.

The route of the procession from the Court House to the site was down Market Street, up Stafford Street, and Stone Road, and the return route down Clivedon Road, Rosslyn Road, up Trentham Road, along Stafford Street, up Commerce Street to the Court House.

The Sites Sub-Committee, having obtained tenders for the erection of a marquee and the necessary accommodation, recommended the tender of Messrs. J. Lyons & Company (Limited), of 168, Regent Street, London, for the erection of a marquee to seat at least 5,000 persons, the provision of chairs on conveniently-raised tiers, the numbering of same, the provision of the necessary tickets, the provision and furnishing of a stage or Royal dais, the decoration of the marquee with Royal Arms, Longton Arms, flags, palms, and flowering plants—the whole to be warmed by gas chandeliers and stoves, lighted, &c.; the provision of a first-class Hungarian Band to play during the arrival of guests, together with 5,000 programmes, with printed matter as might be directed; the provision of entrances and exits, all gangways to be properly matted, and all steps to have white tape on treads; the provision of additional marquee, to be divided into Corporation waiting-room, lavatory, &c.; Royal ladies' waiting-room, and Royal vestibules, furnished suitably and decorated; together with gentlemen's room, ladies' room, lavatory, &c., all properly lined, draped, and furnished, for the sum of £540.

THE STONE-LAYING CEREMONY.

As the time fixed for the ceremony approached, the spacious marquee became well filled. It was profusely decorated with flags, palms, and flowering plants, whilst the poles supporting it were partially concealed by Royal tartan drapery and adorned with shields and escutcheons bearing the Royal Arms and heraldic devices appropriate to the borough. Seats on the platform were reserved for the Mayor of Longton (Alderman A. Edwards), who wore a handsome state robe of figured black silk, heavily embellished with gold lacing: the members of the Longton Corporation, in their new robes of office; the borough member, Mr. D. H. Coghill, M.P.; the borough officials—these, with the Royal visitors and party and the Masonic dignitaries being the only occupants of the platform. In a reserved enclosure immediately in front were assembled the Mayors of Stafford (Alderman F Greatrex), Newcastle (Mr. F. Stanier),

Burslem (Alderman T. Arrowsmith), and Stoke (Councillor F. Geen), wearing scarlet and ermine robes and their chains of office; the Mayor of Hanley (Councillor M. Tunnicliffe) being in morning dress, with the Mayoral chain; the Chairman of the Fenton District Council (Mr. G. Taylor), the Chief Bailiff of Tunstall (Mr. W. Boulton), the Town Clerks of Longton (Mr. G. C. Kent), Newcastle (Mr. J. Griffith), Hanley (Mr. A. Challinor), Stoke (Mr. J. B. Ashwell), Burslem (Mr. A. Ellis), Fenton (Mr. C. Adderley), and Tunstall (Mr. A. P. Llewelyn); the Hon. and Rev. L. F. Tyrwhitt, the Rev. E. D. Boothman, Messrs. W. Woodall, M.P., C. J. Blagg, Harold Wright, J. Wilcox Edge, T. Hulme, J. Challinor, A. S. Bolton, W. E. Bowers, F. E. Kitchener, W. A. Adderley, G. Menzies, T. Forester, J. Chew, A. F. Coghill, &c. The young ladies who were to present purses containing contributions towards the Building Fund of the Institute were accommodated with seats in and near the enclosure. Special programmes were presented to the Royal Party, with the Borough Arms illuminated in proper heraldic colours. The programmes were enclosed in purple calf cases, tooled in gold and lined with watered silk.

Respecting the new robes worn by members of the Longton Corporation, we may say that the aldermanic gowns are of blue cloth trimmed with velvet. The councillors' gowns are of blue cloth trimmed with fur. The Medical Officer of Health (Dr J. W. Dawes, V.D.) wore a gown of plain blue silk. The Town Clerk, it was observed, did not wear robes. Messrs. W. Rochell & Co., tailors, of Longton and Leek, supplied the gowns.

The scene when the enormous company had assembled was a very brilliant one, and will long be remembered by those who were privileged to witness it. In the foreground the scarlet robes of the local mayors stood out conspicuously, and the Masons, wearing their full insignia, who were seated on each side of the platform, added to the picturesqueness of the scene, whilst amongst the general public the tasteful costumes of ladies enhanced the effectiveness of the spectacle. Selections by the Scarlet Hungarian Band, conducted by Mr. F. Harrington, were played during and after the ceremony.

The guard of honour was provided by the Stoke and Longton Companies of the 1st V.B. North Staffordshire Regiment, with the Battalion Band. They were in review order, and presented a smart appearance. There were on parade Capt. W. E. Clarke (in command), Lieut. G. A. Mitcheson, 100 rank-and-file, Sergt.-Major Darlington, and four sergeants. Capt. and Adjt. Campbell-Johnston was also present. The escort received their Royal Highnesses with a Royal salute, the band playing the National Anthem. A similar compliment was paid on the departure of the Royal visitors. It was originally intended that a mounted escort of the Newcastle and Potteries Troop of the Queen's Own Staffordshire Yeomanry should be present, but, it is understood at the wish of the Prince of Wales, the order to muster was cancelled.

On the arrival of the Prince at the entrance to the pavilion he was presented with the following address:—

"To His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c., &c., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons under the United Grand Lodge of England.

May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Provincial Grand Master, Grand Officers and Brethren of the Province of Staffordshire, desire to offer to your Royal Highnesses this expression of our warm and fraternal welcome on this the first occasion of your paying to our Province a ceremonial visit, in which gracious act we recognise in your Royal Highness the readiness to assist in all good works that has ever been your distinguishing characteristic. We pray that our beloved Craft may long enjoy the benefits of your Royal Highness's beneficent rule, and that the Great Architect of the Universe may, in His mercy and wisdom, vouchsafe to your Royal Highness many years of public usefulness, health, happiness, and prosperity.

"DARTMOUTH,
Provincial Grand Master.

"G. WALTON WALKER,
Provincial Grand Secretary.

"Longton,
"*January 7th, 1897.*"

The Prince's reply was taken as read and handed to the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Dartmouth. The following is a copy:—"Right Worshipful Master and Brethren,—It is a great pleasure to me to be able to pay a visit to your Province and to perform the ceremony of laying with Masonic honours the first stone of an institution which promises to be of remarkable importance and utility to the district. I much appreciate your reference to my connection with the Craft, and I highly prize the position I occupy of Grand Master of the Order. I could not indeed fail to feel gratified at being associated with the large and influential body of my countrymen who generously support the Masonic institutions which have been formed in England for the benefit of their poorer brethren and their families. I thank you for your address and kind reception, and I have had much satisfaction in listening to the cordial words in which you expressed yourselves towards me."

It should be stated that the address is a large vellum scroll, magnificently illuminated in gold and glowing colours. The Royal heraldry of the Prince's Arms and other emblazonments are a noticeable feature of the address, and have been designed and executed with rare heraldic and artistic spirit. The arms of the Prince of Wales, with supporters and crests, occupy the central position at the head of the address, while the arms of the Province of Staffordshire and the Borough of Longton are enclosed within circles on either side, pendant from the richly illuminted ornament forming the border, which, springing from the centre of the base, sweeps along the foot on each side, shoots upward, breaking out into beautiful floriated scroll work as it proceeds to the top, where it encloses in a circular space within its involved branches the Grand Master's jewel upon a purple field. The wording of the address is inscribed in ancient church text characters, with illuminated initials and capitals, after the style of mediæval MSS., concluding with the autographs of the Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Secretary. Opposite to the signatures, upon the clear space, in a circular seal form, are emblazoned the Arms of the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Dart-

mouth. A broad blue ribbon, interlaced with vellum and pendant therefrom, serves to fasten the scroll when rolled up. To preserve and enshrine the document, a case has been provided, which in itself is an admirable piece of art craftsmanship. The whole work has been prepared by Bro. Arthur L. Harber, of Messrs. Hughes and Harber, of Longton, and reflects greatly on his skill and good taste.

The Princess of Wales and the other ladies of the Royal Party were the first to enter the marquee, and they were greeted with loud cheers, the company rising from their seats. The Princess carried a choice bouquet presented by the Mayoress. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was escorted by the Duke of Sutherland, the Earl of Dartmouth, and the other grand officers clad in their Masonic insignia. As His Royal Highness stepped on to the platform the cheering was renewed. The Prince was accommodated with a raised seat immediately behind the stone, the Princess and the ladies of the party being seated on his left, and the Earl of Dartmouth (acting as Deputy Grand Master) and the Duke of Sutherland on his right. There were present on the platform the Countess of Dartmouth, Lady Norreys, Mrs. Ralph Sneyd, Miss Knollys, the Mayoress (Miss Edwards), Mrs. G. C. Kent, Lord Herbert Vane Tempest, Lord Wolverton, Lord Algernon Gordon Lennox, and Captain Holford. The grand officers who led the Royal procession into the pavilion were:—The Grand Tyler, Bro. H. Sadler; the Deputy-Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. F. Richardson; the Grand Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Thos. Fenn; three Masters of Lodges, bearing the cornucopia and ewers with wine and oil, Bros. J. W. Bromley (Longton), W. Brickel (Cheadle), and Major Harding (Stone); the Grand Secretary, bearing a plate with the inscription for foundation stone, Bro. Edwd. Letchworth; the President of the Board of General Purposes, with mallet, Bro. M'Leod; Acting Grand Registrar, bearing the great seal, Lieut.-Col. Bindley, D.P.G.M. Staffordshire, P.G.D. England; the Grand Treasurer, bearing a phial containing coins, Very Wor. Bro. W. H. Bailey; the Grand Chaplain, the Ven. Archdeacon of Essex; the Junior Grand

Warden, with the plumb rule, Bro. W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P.; the Senior Warden, with the level, Lieut.-Col. Lockwood, M.P.; the Deputy-Grand Master, with the square, the Earl of Dartmouth; the Grand Sword Bearer, Bro. H. Lovegrove; the Senior Grand Deacons, Bros. J. Bodenham and Dr. Newnham. The ovation which greeted their Royal Highnesses' entrance having subsided, the Duke of Sutherland handed the Mayor the deed of conveyance of the site as a free gift. His Worship replied in the following terms:—"My Lord Duke,—I beg to thank you for your noble and generous gift, which is only one of the many that you and your predecessors have conferred upon our borough." The cover of the binding to hold permanently the deed of gift was in the form of an oblong folio, covered in vellum, with the inscription hand-tooled in gold on the front as follows:—"Deed of Gift. The Duke of Sutherland to the Borough of Longton. This deed was presented by the Duke of Sutherland to the Mayor of Longton on the 7th of January, 1897, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales laid the foundation stone of the Sutherland Institute, Longton." The arms of the Duke of Sutherland are emblazoned at the top, and the Borough Arms towards the foot. The inside of the covers is lined with white watered silk and gold tooled on the vellum margin. The deed is fastened permanently by a silk cord through three eyelet holes in the back-board. The work has been artistically executed by Messrs. Hughes and Harber, Longton.

The Mayor then addressed the Grand Master as follows:—"And now, may it please your Royal Highness, I have the honour to tender to you and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales a loyal welcome to the Borough of Longton, and to ask that you will be pleased to lay the foundation stone of this Institute, which is designed to benefit our people and their industries, and is intended to perpetuate the memory of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, and his fulfilment of the office of Mayor of this Borough." (Loud applause.)

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in reply, said: "Mr. Mayor, I have much pleasure in acceding to your request and to lay the foundation stone of the Sutherland Insti-

Bro. A. EDWARDS,

Mayor of Longton, 1874, 1896-7-8-9, 1907-8.

tute." (Applause.) The top stone having been raised by the operatives in charge of the mechanical arrangements, His Royal Highness proceeded: "Men and brethren here assembled to behold this ceremony, be it known unto you that we are lawful Masons true and faithful to the laws of our country, and are engaged by solemn obligations to erect handsome buildings to be serviceable to the brethren and to the honour of the Great Architect of the Universe. We have amongst us concealed from the eyes of all men secrets which may not be revealed and which no man has discovered. These secrets are lawful and honourable and not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were entrusted in peace and honour to Masons of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us it is our duty to convey them unimpaired to our latest posterity. Unless our Craft were good and our calling honourable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrous brethren in our Order ready to promote our laws and further our interests. We are assembled here to-day in the presence of you all to erect this building to the honour and glory of the Most High, which we pray God may prosper as it seems good to Him. And as the first duty of Masons in any undertaking is to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon their work, I will ask you to unite with our Grand Chaplain in an address to the Throne of Grace."

The Grand Chaplain (the Archdeacon of Essex) then offered prayer, praying that the Almighty would be mercifully pleased to bless the laying of the foundation stone in the name of Him who was the tried and precious Corner Stone, and grant that all those who in furtherance of that work had offered of their substance might be preserved both in body and soul.

The Prince then said:—"I declare it to be my will and pleasure that the corner stone of this Institute be laid. Brother the Grand Secretary will read the inscription on the plate for the stone."

The Grand Secretary (Bro. E. Letchworth) read the inscription as follows:—"Borough of Longton. Suther-

land Institute. This stone was laid by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient and Accepted Freemasons of England, with Masonic ceremonial, 7th day of January, 1897. The site for this Institute was the gift of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland. Aaron Edwards, Mayor."

The stone is of Aberdeen granite, three feet in breadth and two feet high, supplied by Messrs. Tompkinson and Bettelley. It rests on a Hollington plinth, 6½ inches thick, this being set on brickwork reaching 13 feet 3 inches below the floor line, resting on a bed of concrete two feet thick.

At the request of the Prince, the Grand Treasurer (Bro. W. H. Bailey) deposited in a cavity in the lower stone a casket containing the current coins of the realm, from a sovereign downwards, and copies of *The Times*, *The Staffordshire Advertiser*, *The Staffordshire Sentinel*, and *The Longton Times and Echo.*

The Mayor asked His Royal Highness's acceptance of a beautiful gold trowel and ornamental mallet, the gift of His Worship, and designed and worked out by Mr. W. H. Ashton, silversmith, Longton. The following is a technical description of these implements:—The blade of the trowel is embellished on the panel of the left side with emblems of the industries of Longton, viz., potting and mining, these applying also to the technical work of the Institute. The panel on the other side shows emblems of education, science, and learning generally, viz.:—"The Owl of Wisdom," "Lamp of Learning," "Globe," "Crucible," &c. Beneath are two circular compartments with monogram "A.E." (Albert Edward), and the year of the ceremony (1897) in rich enamel. The plume of feathers and coronet of His Royal Highness is boldly displayed, carved out of the solid, and richly chased, these being further supported by the Red Rose of England in enamel. On either side of plume are emblems of trade and industry, viz.:—Caducus staff, &c., with flowing ribbon, bearing the words, "Sutherland Institute, Longton." In the centre is engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to His Royal Highness the

Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., on his Laying the Foundation Stone, Sutherland Institute, Longton, January 7th, 1897." The handle is of solid ivory, decorated with the Royal Arms on one side and the Longton Arms on the reverse side, enamelled in proper heraldic colours, and enriched with four shields bearing monograms:—S.I. (Sutherland Institute), L. (Longton), A.E. (Aaron Edwards), and 1897. The mallet is of solid ivory, enriched and mounted with silver traceries and ornamentations. The head bears in front on one side a full representation of the Royal Arms, richly treated in fine enamel and proper heraldic colours, and supported by the plume of feathers and motto. On the other side the full coat-of-arms of Longton, with supporters, crest and motto, also in fine enamel, the two coat-of-arms being connected by an ornamental band, running round the head and bearing a conventional treatment of the English Rose. The handle is enriched with four shields to match those on the trowel.

It should be mentioned that the chairs, pedestals, &c., used on the occasion were from St. Michael's, Stone, which possesses handsome Lodge furniture.

His Royal Highness having accepted the Mayor's presentation, and mortar having been spread over the surface of the lower stone, the Prince of Wales levelled the mortar and the suspended block was slowly lowered into position, three distinct stops being made in the process. Having used the plumb His Royal Highness declared: "I find this stone to be plumb, and the craftsmen who prepared it true and trusty." (Applause.) The Prince then used the level, and thereupon remarked: "I find this stone to be level, and that the craftsmen have laboured skilfully." The square was then used, and the Prince announced: "I find this stone to be plumb, level and square, and I declare it to be duly prepared and truly laid, and that the craftsmen have worked well." His Royal Highness then struck the stone thrice with his mallet, and having been handed a gilt cornucopia emptied its contents of grain upon the stone, with the formula: "I scatter corn on this stone as an emblem of plenty and abundance. May the blessings of morality and virtue flourish in this building, producing fruit a hundred-fold."

Pouring wine upon the stone, the Prince declared: "I pour out wine upon this stone as the emblem of joy and gladness." A vessel containing oil having been supplied, His Royal Highness, suiting the word to the action, said: "I sprinkle oil upon this stone, the emblem of peace and unanimity. May prosperity, happiness, and goodwill ever prevail amongst those who will assemble in this Institute, to the glory of the Most High, until time shall be no more." "So mote it be," was the response of the Masonic brethren. The Borough Surveyor (Mr. J. W. Wardle) was then introduced to His Royal Highness, and submitted the plans. Returning these to Mr. Wardle, the Prince said: "I now place in your hands the plans of this intended building, and the necessary tools, not doubting your skill as a craftsman. I desire that you will proceed without loss of time to the completion of the work in conformity with the plans and designs now entrusted to you."

This concluded the Masonic ceremony, which throughout was most impressive. Purses were then presented and gracefully received by the Princess of Wales. The following is a list of the donors and the amounts contained in the purses:—

Masonic Lodges: Etruscan (Longton), £52 10s.; St. Giles's (Cheadle), per Mrs. W. H. Cull, £5 5s.; Portland (Stoke), Mrs. Harding, £5 5s.; Minerva (Fenton), Mrs. Darwen, £5 5s.; St. Michael's (Stone), Mrs. Fletcher, £7 7s.: Foresters Lodge (Uttoxeter), Miss Goodwin, £5 5s.; Menturia Lodge (Hanley), Miss Theresa Baker, £5; Menturia Lodge (Hanley), Miss Freda Baker, £5. Ladies: The Mayoress, £15; Mrs. C. J. Edwards, £10; Mrs. W. H. Edwards, £5; Miss Annie Jones, £5 10s. 6d.; Mrs. W. T. Cope, £8 10s.; Mrs. A. L. Harber, £13; Miss Edith Webberley, £5 5s.; Miss H. Prowse, £15; Miss M. Prowse, £10; Miss Gertrude Greaves, £5 5s.; Miss Mayer, £5; Miss Allin, £5; Mrs. Wm. A. Adderley, £5; Mrs. J. L. Johnson, £5 5s.; Mrs. Leak, £10; Mrs. R. H. Plant, £5 5s.; Mrs. S. H. Bullock, £5 5s.; Miss Annie Brain, £5; Miss Florrie Cooper, £5 5s.; Mrs. J. Brunt, £5 10s.; Mrs. Frewer, £8 9s. 5d.; Miss Wildblood, £5 15s.; Miss Heath, £5; Mrs. Stevenson, £7 16s.; Miss Farmer, £5 8s. 6d.; Miss M. Warner, £10 10s.; Miss

Annie Cyples, £5; Mrs. W. R. Blair, £5 5s.; Miss Scott, £5; Mrs. R. H. Cope, £5; Mrs. Rochell, £5; Mrs. G. Bennion, £6 10s.; Miss Forester, £5 10s.; Miss Kitty Blair, £5; Miss M. Mackee, £5; Mrs. J. E. Hodson, £5 5s.; Mrs. C. S. Meigh, £5 5s.; Miss Mackee, £5; Miss Bromley, £5 11s. 6d. Manufactories and Schools: G. Proctor and Co., per Miss M. Evans, £6 11s.; John Lockett and Co., Ralph Hammersley, £3 14s.; Collingwood Bros., Miss S. Chatfield, £5; C. Waine, Miss Mary Villiers, £6 6s.; H. Aynsley and Co., Miss Annie Birks, £6 6s.; Jno. Tams, Miss Hannah Wooton, £6; Blackhurst and Hulme, Miss Clara Lockett, £4 4s.; Cartwright and Edwards, Miss Gertrude Astbury, £60 1s. 8d.; Plant Bros., Miss Rosa Cheadle, £5; Hawley, Webberley and Co., Miss Ada Cooke, £5; Bridgett and Bates, Miss Isabella Anderson, £5 15s.; Sampson Smith and Co., Miss Elizabeth Hibberts, £6; E. Astbury and Co., Miss Ciceley Tams, £3 17s.; C. Allerton and Sons, Miss Mary Bromage, £3 3s.; Hammersley and Co., Miss Beatrice Buckley, £6 4s.; G. Warrilow and Son, Miss Florence Warrilow, £5 5s.; Coggins and Hill, Miss R. Whitehurst, £6; William Lowe, Miss Elizabeth Lockett, £9 5s.; Thomas Poole, Miss Sarah Colclough, £7 5s. 6d.; W. T. M'Neal and Co., Miss May Poole, £5 5s.; Ratcliffe and Co., Miss E. Burgess, £5; Thomas Heath, Master Edward Grainger, £3 3s.; Shore and Co., Miss Florence Plant, £6; F. Cartlidge and Co., Miss Emily Salt, £5 2s. 3d.; British Anchor Pottery Company, Miss Hannah Stanley, £10 10s.; Florence Boys' Board School, Master James Greaves, £4; Florence Board Girls' School, Miss Gladys M. Cartlidge, £6; Florence Board Infants' School, Master J. H. Chew, £3; St. James's Church School, Miss E. J. Cartlidge, £3 10s.; Longton School Board Teachers. Miss J. Austin, £6 15s. 6d.; ditto, Miss G. Forrester, £5; ditto, Miss Harrison, £5; Normacot Church School, Miss E. Brunt, £2 10s.; Edensor Church School, Miss Lydia Birks, £1 5s.; Longton Porcelain Company, Miss Jamieson, £5 5s.; A. H. Plant and Co., Miss Marion Hudson, £6 13s.; Barker Bros., Master Edwin Arrowsmith, £7 17s. 6d.; W. Rochell and Co., Miss E. Ashton, £2 10s.; Cope and Hawley, Miss S. A. Birks, £4 4s. 10d.;

H. M. Williamson and Son, Miss M. Barlow, £8 4s. 2d.; W. A. Adderley and Co., Miss M. A. Brindley, £8; Redfern and Drakeford, Miss Eleanor Everett, £7 4s.; Corporation Workmen, Philip Shingler, £9; Dresden Church Schools, Miss E. Clewlow, £2 2s.; Edwards and Brown, Miss Maud Booth, £4 4s.; Taylor and Kent, Miss Florence Hall, £7 10s.; Grove and Prowse, Miss Mary Marson, £3 8s. 3d; Rowley and Newton, Miss F. Evans, £4 13s. 8d.; Longton Endowed Schools, Master H. J. Haime, £5 10s.; Corporation Gas Department, Mrs. M'Gregor, £6 10s.; S. T. Wiltshaw and Co., Miss Martha Jebbs, £5 5s.; S. Emony, Mr. Leonard Graham, £1 9s. 6d.; Longton School Board Children, Miss Wigley, £4; ditto, Miss M. Vaughan, £3 4s. 6d.; Tompkinson and Betteley, Mr. William Tams, £7 7s.; Joseph Finney, Miss Harriet Maddox, £4; T. Wild and Co., Miss Annie Wild, £5 5s.; T. Forester and Sons (Limited), Miss Ada Bowden, £16; Wildblood and Heath, Miss Mary Shaw, £6.

At the conclusion of the presentation of purses the Grand Chaplain pronounced a blessing, after which the Prince of Wales was conducted round the Pavilion by the Grand Officers amid a scene of great enthusiasm. The band struck up the patriotic air, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," which brought the whole company to their feet, and they heartily joined in singing the refrain. As the Prince left the building enthusiastic cheers were given for His Royal Highness, the Princess, and the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. The Prince, and more especially the Princess, who lingered on the dais as the Prince passed in procession, seemed to be highly pleased with this demonstration.

Wor. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. A. Bindley, P.G.D. England, D.P.G. Master, the Very Wor. Bro. W. H. Bailey, P.P.G.S.W. of Staffordshire, and Treasurer of Grand Lodge, and Wor. Bro. John Bodenham, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire and P.G.A.D.C. England, were presented to the Prince of Wales by the Earl of Dartmouth.

The following gentlemen acted as stewards in the marquee, viz.:—Messrs. Richard Kent, R. V. Wildblood, G. T. Lambert, Thomas Copestake, H. S. Howard, S. F.

Brough, R. Leslie, W. Barnes, T. H. Jacks, T. R. Colclough, T. C. Wild, Geo. Greaves, jun., H. Burgess, C. A. Benbow, W. Cooke, J. W. Bakewell, W. H. Wright (Lilleshall Terrace), W. H. Wright (High Street), T. C. Wall, R. Amor, C. Amor, W. Ambrose, J. H. Beckett, T. H. Griffiths, jun., James, Tatton, A. Dawson, Shaw, Johnson, A. Ball, R. Stevenson, W. Coggins, and W. Poulson.

The return journey to Trentham was made by way of Cliveden and Rosslyn Roads. The weather had cleared to some extent, the carriages were thrown open, and the Prince and Princess bowed their acknowledgments to the cheering multitude lining the route.

The greatest credit is due to the Corporation of Longton for the excellent arrangements made in connection with the stone-laying. It was a dignified and imposing ceremony, which will be remembered and talked about 50 years hence. The chief actors in it will then have crossed "the line of mystery," but there will be still living—grey-headed grandmothers and grandfathers of 1950—the longer-lived ones of the young folks who were privileged to make their bow to the Princess of Wales in 1897. The Mayor (Alderman Edwards) has thrown himself heart and soul into all the arrangements, and received the most cordial support from his colleagues on the Bench and in the Council. He has had an earnest supporter in Alderman Leak, the Chairman of the Technical Instruction Committee. To the ability of the Town Clerk (Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent) much is owing. His grasp of detail and untiring energy have been invaluable, and he has been ably seconded by Mr. W. T. Cope and other officials of the Borough.

The previous account gives an excellent description of the ceremony, but cannot describe the pride and pleasure felt by the brethren of the Lodge in seeing the Mayor of the Borough (Bro. Aaron Edwrads), who is an old member of the Lodge, performing the duties of his high position in such an admirable manner, and with the dignity and grace of an accomplished courtier.

The Town Clerk (Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent), on whom devolved the labour of general superintendent and com-

mander-in-chief, had so imbued the other town officials with some of his energy that the arrangements were carried out to perfection, whilst the officers and members of the Lodge, headed by their indefatigable W.M., Bro. J. W. Bromley, laboured with untiring zeal and to such good purpose that the great meeting of Masons, met to do honour to their illustrious Most Worshipful Grand Master, was a splendid success.

During the Mastership of Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley the officers presented a complete and handsome set of working tools to the Lodge, for which hearty thanks were accorded by the brethren.

1897. On January 14th Bro. G. H. Frewer was installed W.M., when forty brethren of this Lodge, and twenty-one visitors, met in the little Lodge Room to do him honour.

Bro. A. L. Harber was heartily thanked for his presentation to the Lodge of a handsomely framed portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Wor. Grand Master of England, in his Masonic Regalia.

Wor. Bro. J. E. Hodson reported that at the meeting of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, held on the 6th inst., grants were made of £35 to members of the Lodge who are in distress.

Bro. Hodson also reported further on the present state of the funds of the Association, and asked for subscriptions from the brethren to the Benevolent Fund. He received the thanks of the Lodge for his report.

At the next Lodge resolutions of sympathy were accorded—and letters to that effect were sent—to Bro. A. L. Harber on the death of his father; and to the widow of our late Bro. J. S. Boughey.

The following resolution was carried with acclamation at the May Lodge: "That the members of the Etruscan "Lodge desire to recognise the great honour confirmed "upon the Lodge by the appointment of one of its mem-"bers to Grand Lodge rank, and they offer their hearty "congratulations to Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent upon his recent "appointment to the office of Assistant Grand Director "of Ceremonies."

Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent thanked the mover and seconder for their kind remarks, and the brethren generally for the resolution they had passed.

At the June meeting—previous to the opening of the Lodge—the boys who acted as Lewises on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the Sutherland Institute by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., were brought into the Lodge Room and were each presented by the W.M. with a very handsome Bible, bearing the signature of the Right. Wor. Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Dartmouth, and given by the Prov. Grand Lodge. The Wor. Master and Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair addressed a few kindly words to the boys.

The recipients of these beautiful mementoes are sons of members of this Lodge, viz.:—Robert G. Blair, Geo. E. Fisher, Wilfred Forester, Charles H. Frewer, James W. Bromley, William R. Williams, Geo. Owen Bennion, and W. Roy Rochell.

It was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Prov. Grand Lodge for the very appropriate gift.

Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley was congratulated on receiving at the Prov. Grand Lodge held May 26th, at Lichfield, the well-merited position of Prov. Senior Grand Warden.

Wor. Bro. W. Brickel also received the congratulations of the brethren on his appointment of P.A.G. Pursuivant. Bros. Bromley and Brickel each returned thanks to the brethren for their kind expressions.

At the great meeting of Freemasons held in the Albert Hall, London, to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the following members of this Lodge attended:—G. H. Frewer, W.M.; A. L. Harber, S.W.; T. I. Cope, J.W.; W. R. Blair, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; J. Webberley, P.M., Treasurer, P.P.G.R.; Wor. Bros. D. Chapman and Albert Walters; W. Rochell, S.D.; J. L. Webberley, Organist; R. H. Plant and Joseph Holdcroft.

Extract from *The Graphic* of the proceedings:—

THE QUEEN AND THE FREEMASONS.

Great Meeting at the Albert Hall.

Speech by the Prince of Wales.

The greatest gathering of Freemasons that has ever been held—so both the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught assured them—was that which assembled yesterday at the Royal Albert Hall, for the purpose of voting a loyal address of congratulation to the Queen—the Patron of the Craft—on her completing the sixtieth year of her reign. Nearly 8,000 Masons, all in full craft regalia, gathered in the great hall. The task of marshalling this vast army into their places was admirably carried out by a large body of stewards, under the direction of Bro. Thomas Fenn, Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and long before a fanfaronade by trumpeters of the Life Guards, stationed by the organist's seat, heralded the approach of the procession of Grand Lodge Officers and distinguished guests every man was in his allotted place Apart from the light blue aprons and collars of members of Craft Lodges, the dark blue of the Provincial Grand Officers, and the masses of jewels with which the breasts of most of the brethren were adorned, there were a few native Indians in gorgeous array, and several soldiers in uniform to give colour to the scene. The appearance of the Prince of Wales at the far end of the hall, opposite the great organ, was the signal for a burst of cheering from every member of the vast audience. Grand stewards in their red aprons and collars, and Grand Lodge officers, lined the gangway as the Most Worshipful Grand Master, preceded by the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, and the standard bearers, and followed by the Duke of Connaught and other distinguished Masons, marched across the hall and took his seat under the banner of the Grand Lodge in front of the organ. On his right sat the Earl of Amherst, Deputy-Grand Master, and on his left the Duke of Connaught,

who holds the honorary degree of Past Grand Master, as well as being in active office as Provincial Grand Master of Sussex and District Grand Master of Bombay. On the Duke's right sat the Earl of Lathom, and among other distinguished Freemasons on the dais were: Lord Leigh, the oldest of the Provincial Grand Masters; the Earl of Euston, Lord Llangattock, General J. Wimburn Laurie, M.P.; Mr. A. F. Godson, M.P.; Mr. W. L. Jackson, M.P.; Viscount Dungarvan, Colonel Le Gendre Starkie, Mr. T. F. Halsey, M.P.; Mr. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., and many other Provincial Grand Masters, besides Past and Present Grand Officers.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master the Prince of Wales, in opening the meeting, said: "Before we go to the business which has called this great gathering together I beg leave to address a few words to you. It will certainly be within the memory of most people—of many of you who are here to-day, and of the Craft in general—that ten years ago we had a meeting similar to this one, the object being to present a humble address to Her Majesty the Queen on having attained the fiftieth anniversary of her accession. Ten years have elapsed since that time, and by the bountiful goodness of Providence Her Majesty has reigned ten years more. The desire throughout this realm—throughout this vast Empire—to do honour to this great and unprecedented occasion has been felt by all. Every member of the community has desired in some way or other to testify his high appreciation of the way in which Her Majesty has ruled over this great Empire for the past sixty years. I maintain, having filled this high post for many years—as head of this great Craft in England—I maintain that there is no body in Her Majesty's dominions who are more loyal or more orderly than the Freemasons are. We have met therefore to-day, brethren, for the purpose of moving and seconding an address to the Queen on her attaining the sixtieth anniversary of her accession, and I know well with what enthusiasm this motion will be received when I put it to the meeting. Ten years ago, brethren, we were a very large number in this hall; but I learn we are to-day a still greater gathering. I do not

believe so large a gathering of Masons has ever been held before, and probably so large a gathering will never be held again. I thank you for having come to-day and testified by your enthusiasm and by your numbers how important you consider this great occasion which brings us together."

The Grand Secretary, by direction of the Prince of Wales, then read the address, as follows:—

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

"We, your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects the Free and Accepted Masons under the United Grand Lodge of England, venture, with profound respect, on this, the completion of the sixtieth year of your Majesty's reign over these kingdoms and the vast Empire of the British Crown, humbly to offer our dutiful and heartfelt congratulations, and to express our continued and unswerving loyalty to your Majesty, and our gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe, who has distinguished your Majesty's Reign by a length exceeding that of any of your predecessors, and by the continued and unexampled increase of happiness and prosperity throughout your Majesty's dominions.

"No class of your Majesty's subjects outvies in loyal attachment to the Throne, and devotion to your Majesty's person, the Ancient Institution of English Freemasonry which, founded on the purest principles of religion and morality, is also characterised by its unvarying support of the existing institutions of the country, and by the maintenance of universal charity and brotherhood.

"We pray that the Almighty may continue and multiply on your Majesty those blessings which have hitherto signalised your Majesty's beneficient reign, and that, enshrined in the hearts of all your subjects by ever deepening feelings of loyalty and devotion, your Majesty's reign may always be attended with the blessings of Peace, Unity and Prosperity.

"Dated at the Royal Albert Hall, this 14th day of June, 1897."

The Duke of Connaught said: "In obedience to our most illustrious and Most Worshipful Grand Master, I rise to propose the adoption of the address which has just been read. I hardly expected that such an honour would have fallen to my share as to propose this motion. Our illustrious Grand Master has selected me, I fancy, because I represent not only one of the oldest provinces in the country—namely, that of Sussex—but also the district of Bombay—(cheers)—to show that all Freemasons in Her Majesty's dominions are one at heart—as I am sure we all are on this great occasion. I feel most highly having been asked to address you on what will, I am sure, remain in the annals of the Craft as one of the greatest days in its history. (Cheers.) I believe—in fact our Grand Master has told us—that we are the largest number of Masons who have ever assembled together; and surely we have assembled together for a right and proper purpose. We have assembled in our thousands to show our deep loyalty and devotion to the gracious Sovereign of this great Empire of ours. In her we recognise not only the Sovereign of this realm, but the gracious woman who has ever spoken to the hearts of her people in joy and in trial. (Cheers.) Brethren, we have at all times been loyal to our traditions, and we have been loyal to our Sovereign; and I know that I am speaking the feeling of all present when I say that I move this address with a feeling of the greatest respcet and with a feeling of gratitude that I am standing here to-day to move an address to one who has so long graced the Throne of England."

This was seconded by the M.W. Pro. Grand Master Earl Amherst, and carried unanimously by the eight thousand brethren present.

The M.W. the Grand Master stated he had approved of a jewel which every brother of an English Lodge might wear who had attended that meeting.

The time had now arrived for the conferring of Grand Lodge honours to mark the Jubilee, and the Prince of Wales said that in addition to the sixty brethren he had selected he had resolved to confer on His Royal Highness

the Crown Prince of Denmark, K.G., G.C.B., Grand Master of Denmark, the rank of Past Grand Master of England; on His Highness the Rajah of Karpurthala the rank of Past Grand Warden; on Chief Justice Wray, Grand Master of South Australia, the rank of Past Grand Warden; and on the Bishop of Bath and Wells the rank of Past Grand Chaplain. The Rajah of Karpurthala was first appointed, and he advanced and shook hands with the Prince of Wales, and also with the Duke of Connaught.

Sixty other brethren, at home and in the Colonies, then had honorary Masonic rank conferred upon them.

The Prince of Wales announced that he had just received a telegram stating that the Freemasons of Bermuda desired to express to their Grand Master their hearty loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty the Queen on the completion of her long and glorious reign. He then stated that he had approved of a special design for a jewel which every member of an English Lodge who was a subscribing member of June 20th might wear, and that also a bar might be worn on such jewel by every brother who had attended that day's meeting. He afterwards stated that the fee for admission to the hall, some £7,000, would go, without deduction, one-half to his own Hospital Fund, and the other half would be divided equally between the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. He also wished to announce that, taking into account the £8,000 voted by Grand Lodge at its last meeting to his fund and the Masonic Charities, the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund would benefit to the extent of £5,500 in addition to what had been subscribed by individual Masons and Masonic Lodges. (Cheers.)

The Earl of Lathom then asked His Royal Highness's acceptance of a handsome jewel to commemorate the great event in which he had taken part, and he wished him many years to wear it in recollection of the occasion.

The Prince of Wales said: "Lord Lathom, I have to offer my thanks to Grand Lodge for having presented me with this jewel, and you for the kind words, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, just spoken. I assure you it has given me great pleasure to preside on this

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great, this auspicious, and never-to-be-forgotten occasion, and I tell you how glad I am to be here and to meet so many Masons from all parts of the world." (Applause.)

A Lodge of Emergency—November 9th—to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of the Etruscan Lodge was held in the Town Hall, Longton. One happy feature in connection with the celebration was the presence of Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill, P.P.S.G.W., who was initiated on the day that the Lodge was consecrated, 1847, and was W.M. in 1851. Bro. Hill, who is now a resident in Yorkshire, for a long period took a prominent position in Prov. Grand Lodge, having filled the office of Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies for twenty-one years in succession.

After the opening of the Lodge the Prov. Grand Master and his officers were received and saluted according to ancient custom.

The Prov. Grand Master, in addressing the brethren, said it afforded him great pleasure to be present on so important an occasion. Those who were acquainted with Freemasonry knew how earnestly the members of the Etruscan Lodge had always performed their Masonic duties, and he thought on looking back on their past, as they were now able to do, they might feel very well satisfied with what they had been able to achieve, and might look forward without apprehension to the future. He referred in kindly terms to the presence of the doyen of the Lodge, and wished health and prosperity to the twin brethren—Bro. Hill and the Etruscan Lodge.

The W.M. Bro. G. H. Frewer expressed his sincere thanks to the Prov. Grand Master and the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge for their presence, and called upon Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair to read an epitome of the history of the Lodge, which begins with a sketch of Freemasonry in North Staffordshire from the latter part of the last century, and narrates in an interesting manner the annals of the Lodge from its formation. It may be noted here that though, like most institutions, the Lodge has had its vicissitudes, the members have always kept in view the great principles of benevolence and charity.

After a vote of thanks had been given to and acknowledged by Wor. Bro. Blair.

Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent referred to numerous references of gifts made to the Lodge in former years, said he had been seeking to find some way to celebrate the year, which had been a memorable one to himself as well as to the Lodge. He found from the Book of Constitutions that Masters and Wardens were entitled to wear silver chains on their collars, and he therefore asked the Lodge to accept from him a set of silver chains for the use of the Master and Wardens for the time being.

The W.M. accepted the gift on behalf of the Lodge, and the Prov. Grand Master invested the Master and Wardens with the chains, which are admirable specimens of the silversmith's work, and congratulated Bro. Kent on his happy thought.

The W.M. presented a framed photograph of the officers of the Lodge for 1897, which was received by Wor. Bro. Prince on behalf of the Lodge. Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley presented a framed portrait of the Right Wor. the Prov. Grand Master, and Wor. Bro. Alf. Mear received it on behalf of the Lodge. Wor. Bro. Blair presented a framed portrait of the late Right Wor. Bro. Col. Vernon, Prov. Grand Master 1853 to 1864, and Wor. Bro. A. S. Walters received it on behalf of the Lodge.

After the closing of the Lodge the brethren re-assembled in the large hall and partook of an excellent banquet provided by Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion, and presided over by the W.M. Bro. Geo. H. Frewer, supported by the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M. and grand officers.. Bro. Bonner's excellent band gave selections during the banquet.

The platform was adorned with a profusion of fine foliage plants, and a select company of ladies were permitted to participate in the enjoyment of the musical programme and refreshments, consisting of fruit, cakes and wines.

The performers were:—Bro. Ffrench Davis, the famous harpist; Miss Latham and Bro. H. Forester gave

songs, Mr. F. Bennett played two violin solos, and Bro. Leslie Harris, a professional entertainer, gained golden opinions for his humourous songs and sketches.

The Wor. Master, in giving the toast of the health of the Most Wor. Grand Master His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, made special mention of the Grand Master's birthday. His Worship the Mayor (Bro. Aaron Edwards) proposed the health of Lord Dartmouth, who, in reply, congratulated the Lodge on the position which it had maintained throughout its history, which had been related in so interesting a manner by Bro. Blair, and commended to the brethren a continuance in the good paths for the promotion of brotherly love and charity.

The usual toast list was honoured and concluded with "The Ladies," proposed by Wor. Bro. Griffiths, who made special mention of the excellent musical service rendered by Miss Latham.

The banquet was attended by eight-five brethren, comprising a large number of Prov. Grand Officers, Masters and Past Masters of most of the Lodges in the province.

At the next Lodge, held two days after the Jubilee Lodge of Emergency, each brother who had on that occasion made a presentation to the Lodge was thanked. The committee, whose arrangements had conduced so materially to the success of the meeting, with its indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Harber, received a full meed of thanks and commendation.

The brethren are informed that the hand of death has been busy in removing from their ranks Wor. Bros. Prowse, Thos. Blair and William Tunnicliff. The last mark of respect was paid in each case by the attendance of many members of the Lodge.

1898. Bro. Arthur L. Harber was installed by his predecessor Wor. Bro. G. H. Frewer, assisted by Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley, in the presence of a large number of Provincial Officers, Past Masters, and other distinguished brethren.

Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion obtained permission to

present a framed portrait of Wor. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bindley, D.P.G. Master Staffordshire, and P.G.D. England, which he had intended to have presented at the jubilee meeting, and received hearty thanks for his handsome present.

The brethren were much gratified in learning that Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths had been appointed P.P.S.G.W. for Staffordshire, and were unanimous in their heartiest congratulations and in the opinion that the position was well deserved and properly bestowed.

Wor. Bro. Griffiths suitably acknowledged the congratulations of the brethren.

Respectful congratulations were sent to the Right Hon. and Wor. Bro. Lord Burton, as a Staffordshire Mason, upon his appointment to the distinguished office of Senior Grand Warden of England, with the desire of the brethren that he may long be spared to continue those great services he has for so many years rendered to the Craft and this province.

His Lordship replied :—

RANGEMORE, BURTON-ON-TRENT,
May 19th, 1898.

DEAR WOR. SIR AND BRO.,

I beg to thank you very heartily for the very kind congratulations you are so good as to send me on behalf of yourself and the brethren of your Lodge.

With fraternal regards, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

BURTON.

Arthur L. Harber, Esq., W.M.

It was carried unanimously that the sum of ten guineas from the funds of the Lodge be added to the Wor Master's (Bro. A. L. Harber) list as steward to the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and also that the sum of ten guineas standing to the credit of the Lodge in the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association be handed to the W.M. to be added to his list for the same object.

At the July meeting of the Lodge the Wor. Master reported that he, attended by Wor. Bros. G. C. Kent, W. R. Blair, John Webberley, Geo. Bennion, Stephen Mear, J. E. Hodson, J. W. Bromley, and Bros. Aaron Edwards, J. Owen Williams and S. H. Bullock, was present as steward at the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held in the Royal Albert Hall, in London, on the 10th June, the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presiding, and that their combined lists amounted to £116 11s.

This was the largest and most extraordinary Masonic banquet ever known. Two thousand five hundred covers were laid for those who were invited to dine with the Most Wor. Grand Master and President of the Institution. There were three thousand eight hundred and eighty-five Masons present. A number of ladies and Masons for want of room had dined at the Freemasons' Tavern. The excitement was intense when H.R.H. the Most Wor. Grand Master announced the total amount of the subscriptions, viz. :—£134,000.

A letter was received from the Grand Secretary shewing that the Most Wor. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge had been made aware of the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru in banishing the Bible from their Lodges, and in eliminating from their ceremonies any portion which expressed a belief in God.

As Freemasons in all ages had worshipped and put their trust in the Great Architect of the Universe, and had looked upon the Volume of the Sacred Law as the light that will guide to all truth and point out the whole duty of man, to remove these great landmarks would destroy the whole system and fabric of Masonry. The Most Wor. the Grand Master issued similar commands to those issued in the case of the Grand Orient of France in 1878 (q.v.)

The Worshipful Master reported that a picnic to Chatsworth had taken place on the 30th August, which was well attended, and resulted in general satisfaction.

In October the brethren had the pleasure of receiving the first official visit from the Wor. the D.P.G. Master

Bro. Col. Walton Walker, when thirty-six Etruscans and twenty-one visitors assembled to do him honour.

The much lamented death of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Pro Grand Master, took place in November, placing all Lodges in mourning for the space of six months.

1899. Bro. Thomas Icke Cope was installed by his predecessor, in an admirable manner, in the presence of a large number of Past Masters and brethren.

In March a communication from the Grand Lodge was received, stating that the Grand Lodge of Peru had repented of their action in the last year and had replaced the Volume of the Sacred Law on their altars, and will conform to the principles of pure Masonry in acknowledging their belief in the great Architect of the Universe. The Grand Master and Grand Lodge are of opinion that so long as the Grand Lodge of Peru and the Lodges holding thereunder respect those ancient landmarks and practice pure Masonry they are entitled to recognition by English Masons as true and lawful Masonic Lodges or bodies.

On the occasion of his marriage Bro. Thos. Tindal, S.D., was presented with a handsome case of cutlery, &c., with hearty good wishes, and in remembrance of the great services he had rendered to the Lodge in the exercise of his profession.

Great sympathy was felt, and a vote expressing same sent to Wor. Bro. J. Mervyn Wood on it being reported that he had met with a very serious accident.

The Wor. Master, who had conducted the ceremonies during his year of office in an able and impressive manner, completed his work by installing his successor in the person of Bro. George Fisher. The festival was in every way a success.

1900. The sum of five pounds was voted to the Patriotic Fund in Longton.

The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Royal Institute for Girls to be added to the list of the Wor. Master, who was attending the festival presided over by

the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Dartmouth.

A vote of sympathy and condolence was sent to Mrs. Adderley on the death of our respected Wor. Bro. W. A. Adderley, who was an old member of the Lodge, having been initiated in 1858, and occupied the chair in 1866. A number of brethren attended his funeral.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Stone in May, on which occasion, before leaving Longton, the brethren attending were entertained to lunch by Wor. Bro. Bennion, who afterwards conveyed them in carriages to and from the Provincial Lodge, for which he was heartily thanked at the next Lodge meeting.

Wor. Bro. S. Mear was congratulated on his appointment of Prov. Grand Supt. of Works, and also thanked for entertaining the brethren on their return from Prov. Grand Lodge, when he was presented with a jewel in commemoration of his appointment.

Wor. Bro. Blair sent a cheque for eight pounds, being the amount realised by the sale of the furniture belonging to the Mark Lodge (now erased), and stated that the Mark brethren were satisfied to leave the disposal of the money to the Wor. Master and brethren of the Lodge. It was eventually decided to increase the sum to ten guineas and present that amount to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to endow the Senior Warden's chair with a vote for that charity.

1901. Bro. William Rochell was installed by the I.P.M. Wor. Bro. Geo. Fisher, in the presence of fifty brethren, including visitors.

Wor. Bro. Geo. Fisher, I.P.M., expressed the great pleasure he experienced in presenting to Wor. Bro. Hodson a combined Past Master's and Secretary's Jewel, on behalf of the Lodge, in appreciation of his many and valuable services rendered to the Lodge.

In thanking the brethren Wor. Bro. Hodson assured them of his desire to promote Freemasonry in general and the Etruscan Lodge in particular.

Great sorrow was felt and expressed on hearing of

the death of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Patroness of the Order, and by command of Grand Lodge, as a mark of profound sorrow on the melancholy occasion, Masonic mourning was to be worn for three months from the 28th day of January instant.

A great meeting of brethren entitled to attend Grand Lodge was held in the Queen's Hall, London, on the 15th February, to vote a loyal and dutiful address to His Majesty the King, tendering the respectful sympathy of the Craft on the death of her late majesty, Queen Victoria, and further offering the respectful and fraternal congratulations of the fraternity on his accession to the Throne; also, to proceed to the nomination for the office of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master.

Bro. Tindal received a hearty vote of thanks for the valuable plans of alteration of the Lodge premises he had presented to the Lodge.

In April the following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That the brethren desire to recognise the great "honour conferred upon the Lodge by the appointment "of another of its members to Grand Lodge rank, and "they offer their hearty congratulations to Wor. Bro. Thos. "Taylor on his appointment to the office of Junior Grand "Deacon."

A resolution was passed:—"That in addition to Wor. "Bro. S. Hill (the sole remaining trustee) the following "brethren be appointed trustees of the Lodge premises: "Wor. Bros. W. R. Blair, A. G. Prince, T. H. Griffiths, "Geo. Bennion, D. Chapman, G. C. Kent, Alf. Mear, J. E. "Hodson, G. E. Walters, A. L. Harber, W. Rochell and "Geo. Fisher; and that Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent be instructed "to prepare the new Trust Deed."

Wor. Bro. Blair presented to the Lodge an old Provincial Jewel given to him by Wor. Bro. Hill, for which he is thanked by the brethren.

The Lodge voted the sum of five pounds to His Worship the Mayor (Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion) as a subscription to the Queen's Memorial Fund.

Wor. Bro. Blair requested and obtained permission

to present to the Lodge a handsomely framed portrait of Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill, P.M., 546, P.P.S.G.W., in commemoration of his genuine honesty and straightforwardness as a man, and in appreciation of his excellent working as a Mason in the Lodge and in the province, and further with a view of keeping the name and fame of such a venerable and distinguished brother ever before the Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Hill was initiated in the Etruscan Lodge on the same day the Lodge was consecrated, the 18th November, 1847. In 1851 he was installed W.M., and two years later received the collar and jewel of P.G. Pursuivant from the R.W.P.G. Master, Bro. Colonel Vernon. In 1855 he was appointed P.G. Director of Ceremonies, which office he held until 1876, a period of twenty-one years, with honour and credit to himself, and to the great advantage of the province. On his retirement from that position, the R.W.P.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury, conferred on him the rank of P.P.G. Warden.

For the last thirty years his residence and business has been in Leeds. This, combined with his great age, prevents his attendance at Lodge as often as he could wish.

Wor. Bro. Blair was thanked for his gift, and requested to sit for his portrait.

Wor. Bro. J. W. Bromley presented a framed photograph (taken by himself) of the two grand pillars at the entrance of the Masonic Temple, New York, for which he received the hearty thanks of the brethren.

A letter was received from Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.A.D.C. England, by Wor. Bro. A. Mear, Secretary.

LONGTON,

November 11th, 1901.

DEAR SIR AND WOR. BRO.,

I desire to report to the Lodge that, after considerable difficulties and delay, the conveyance of the Lodge property from the old surviving trustees to the new trustees and the new Trust Deed, have now been duly completed and stamped. The cost, with stamps, would

exceed ten guineas, but I shall be glad if the Lodge will accept the matter as a present from me.

Yours fraternally,

G. C. KENT.

Wor. Bro. A. Mear, P.M.,
Secretary, 546.

It was unanimously resolved that the best thanks of the brethren be conveyed to Wor. Bro. Kent for his kindness and generosity, and that the same be recorded in the minutes.

The brethren are apprised of the death of Wor. Bro. Samuel Hill on the 9th November, at the ripe age of eighty-one years. A letter of sympathy and condolence was ordered to be written to his neice, Mrs. Garrit, who resided with him.

1902. The installation of Bro. Thomas Tindal, which was held in the ante-room of the Town Hall, and was performed by the retiring Master, Wor. Bro. William Rochell, in the presence of sixty-nine members of all ranks.

At the February Lodge it was agreed to purchase the clothing and jewels belonging to the late Bro. Samuel Hill for five pounds.

Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion obtained permission to present a portrait of Wor. Bro. Blair to the Lodge as a companion picture to Bro. Hill's. In doing so he made reference to Bro. Blair being now the oldest member of the Lodge, and expressed the hope that he would long be spared to continue his Masonic work. After Wor. Bro. Griffiths and others had spoken in similar kindly manner, Wor. Bro. Blair, in thanking Wor. Bro. Bennion and the brethren who had spoken so kindly and touchingly of their regard for him, and their good wishes for his health and happiness, expressed himself to be quite unable adequately to thank them as he ought to do.

On the proposition of Bro. R. H. Plant, supported by several brethren, it was unanimously resolved that Wor. Bro. G. Bennion, being Mayor of Longton in Coronation

WOR. BRO. GEO. C. KENT,
Past Asst. Grand D.C. (England); P.P.S.G.W. (Staffs.)

Year, be invited to sit for his portrait, to be hung in the Lodge.

A letter was received from the Grand Secretary pointing out a proposed alteration in Rule 175 A. in the Book of Constitutions: "That should a brother become three years in arrear of his subscriptions to his Lodge he shall automatically cease to be a member."

On Bro. George Bakewell's death being reported to the Lodge a letter of sympathy and condolence was sent to Mrs. Bakewell.

The Wor. Master, at the Lodge meeting in September, called upon Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths to present to the Lodge the photograph of Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion.

Wor. Bro. Griffiths, in doing so, stated that he had known Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion for 35 years, and in felicitious terms referred to his long and valuable services to Freemasonry and to the town in general, having served the office of Mayor for three years, and who, by his charitable disposition, kind actions, and uprightness through life, had endeared himself to everyone who knew him, and he trusted he would long live to remain amongst them as a Past Master of the Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Bennion, in thanking the brethren, stated that he always endeavoured to attend Lodge regularly, and he considered it a very great compliment and privilege in being requested by the Lodge to sit for his photograph and for it to be hung in the Lodge. He tendered the members his sincere thanks.

It was resolved that the Lodge subscribe the sum of ten guineas to the Building Fund of the Nurses' Home in connection with the North Staffordshire Infirmary, conditionally that the amount should be placed separately to the credit of the Etruscan Lodge, and that Wor. Bro. A. L. Harber be appointed steward at the foundation stone-laying of the Nurses' Home.

1903. The installation of Bro. S. H. Bullock was held in the ante-room of the Town Hall, and performed by his predecessor, Wor. Bro. T. Tindal.

A letter of sympathy was sent to Wor. Bro. T. H.

Griffiths, who, through indisposition, was unable to attend, and who had not failed to attend the installation meeting of the Etruscan Lodge for thirty years.

On the death of Wor. Bro. John Webberley being reported to the Lodge a letter of sympathy was ordered to be sent to Mrs. Webberley and family in their sad bereavement.

Wor. Bro. Harber reported that he had brought the case of the son of the late Bro. Stone before the committee of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association. Young Stone's health had failed and the doctor had ordered him to Bournemouth; the committee had generously granted the sum of fifty pounds to be devoted as considered advisable in recruiting young Stone's health.

Fifteen guineas was voted by the Lodge to refund two Past Masters who had expended that sum in assisting a brother who had passed through a long and dangerous illness.

A letter of sympathy on the death of Wor. Bro. J. G. Bakewell was sent to Mrs. Bakewell and family.

In May the brethren were pleased in receiving a visit from the D.P.G. Master Wor. Bro. Col. Walton Walker, who gave in a very able manner the explanation of the first Tracing Board, for which he was heartily thanked.

The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Festival of the B. Fund of the Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association, to be held at Patshull on the 25th June.

The Festival at Patshull was a glorious success—over £3,500 was realized, the principal subscribers from this Lodge being:

	£	s.	d.
Vice-Patron—Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.A.G.D.C. England ...	26	5	0
Governors—Etruscan Lodge	10	10	0
The Mayor (Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion, P.P.G.R.)	10	10	0
Bro. Aaron Edwards	10	10	0
Bro. A. Ermekiel	10	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Stewards—Wor. Bro. S. H. Bullock, W.M. ...	5	5	0
Wor. Bro. A. L. Harber, P.G. Treasurer	5	5	0
Wor. Bro. A. Mear, P.P.G.S.D. ...	5	5	0
Bro. R. H. Plant	5	5	0
Lady Stewards and other Subscribers... ...	36	15	0
Total ...	£126	0	0

Wor. Bro. A. L. Harber, the Charity Steward, in announcing the above figures, stated that the festival was successful in every way, and gratifying to all concerned. Twenty brethren of this Lodge and ladies attended, and it was pleasing to know that the Etruscan list came out at the head of the Lodges in the north of the province.

Wor. Bro. Harber received the hearty thanks of the Lodge for the able and energetic way in which he had carried out his duties in connection with the festival.

A Lodge of Emergency was called for September 17th to welcome home the following distinguished brethren of the Lodge, who were invited to give descriptive accounts of their travels:—Wor. Bro. W. R. Blair, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire, the senior Past Master of the Lodge, on his return from New Zealand; Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.G. Asst.D.C. England, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire, and Wor. Bro. Thos. Taylor, P.G.D. England, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire, on their return from America.

The Wor. Master accorded to the special guests a very cordial welcome, and congratulated them on their return home.

The welcome was joined in by several. Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths mentioned the long and valuable services rendered to the Lodge by Wor. Bro. Blair, and also referred in congratulatory terms to the high position attained in Masonry by Wor. Bros. Kent and Taylor, and paid a tribute to the splendid generosity of Wor. Bro. Taylor on behalf of the Masonic Charities.

Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion welcomed the travellers, both

in his Masonic capacity and in his position of Mayor, on behalf of the general community.

Wor. Bro. Blair, in responding, gave an interesting account of his Masonic experience while abroad. At Wellington he was introduced to the Grand Master of the New Zealand constitution, and compared the working under the New Zealand constitution with that of Lodges which were held under the United Grand Lodge of England. When at Christchurch he was invited to attend the laying of a foundation stone of a Masonic Temple at Ashburton, fifty-three miles away. The ceremony was well carried out by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master Bro. Richard Dunn Thomas (English constitution), who had never seen a foundation stone-laying with Masonic ceremony. At Sydney he met the Rev. W. I. Carr Smith, formerly of St. John's, Longton, and found that his churchwarden (now his brother-in-law) was a Freemason, who introduced him to the .Empress of India Lodge, Woollahra. Crossing the Pacific, at Berkeley, twelve miles from San Francisco, he visited the Durant Lodge twice (on the 19th and 26th June), the meetings being held every week, and described the extraordinary scene on the second occasion. He considered the American brethren to be good sound Masons, very strict, and, in spite of the difference in working, the main points of Masonry are well kept up.

He was received with hearty good fellowship in the Lodges, both in the Colonies and America. He thanked the brethren for their kind words and the hearty reception they had given him.

Wor. Bro. Kent, in replying, said it was a happy inspiration which led the brethren to call that special Lodge. He described the reception of himself and Wor. Bro. Taylor on their introduction by a distinguished American lawyer to Centennial Lodge, New York. He confirmed Bro. Blair as to the admirable way in which the ceremonies were carried out in America, more theatrical than in England, but none the less impressive. Wor. Bro. Taylor, he added, was privileged to take part

in the working of the Centennial Lodge, the brethren being equally interested in having visitors from the Grand Lodge of England. He tendered them his heartfelt thanks for the cordial reception they had given him.

Wor. Bro. Kent read a beautiful address delivered by a lady to the Centennial Lodge on the occasion of the wives of the brethren presenting a full set of jewels, &c., to the Centennial Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Taylor, in responding, said Bro. Kent had happily defined that gathering as a "happy inspiration," he might add it was a very happy thought beautifully carried out. He could not compare any reception abroad with his reception that night by his Etruscan brethren, for which he sincerely thanked them. Their reception at Centennial Lodge was most hearty and sincere. Everything showed that, with some difference in their application, they retained the principles and essentials of the Order.

At the September Lodge a hearty welcome was accorded to Wor. Bro. the Rev. Canon Williams, a distinguished visitor from No. 1,596, Townsville, Queensland.

Wor. Bro. Williams, in responding, expressed his regret in not being able to be present at the welcome home of Wor. Bro. Blair, who he had casually met on his voyage to England, and whom he held in high estimation. He stated he was delighted to be present, and to find the working was almost identical with the working of his own Lodge. He thanked the brethren for their kind reception, and Bro. Blair for his invitation, and cordially invited any member of the Lodge to visit 1,596 Townsville, when journeying that way.

In November the Lodge was visited by Wor. Bro. Hewgill, of Singapore, formerly of Longton, who was given a cordial welcome. In thanking the brethren for their hearty welcome Bro. Hewgill mentioned that their District Grand Master of the Eastern Archipelago, Bro. W. S. Napier, was a native of Longton.

Wor. Bro. A. L. Harber was thanked for the excellent way in which he had carried out the duties of Charity

Steward during the past year, and was unanimously re-appointed.

The brethren heard with regret of the death of Wor. Bro. A. S. Walters. A number of the brethren accompanied the Wor. Master to his funeral.

1904. Bro. Herbert Forester was installed by Wor. Bro. Col. Walton Walker, D.P.G. Master of Staffordshire.

Wor. Bro. Kent proposed a vote of thanks to the D.P.G.M. for favouring the Lodge with a visit, and for the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony, and trusted it would lead to uniformity in North Staffordshire in certain matters which were most desirable. This was seconded by Wor. Bro. Blair and carried by acclamation.

The Wor. D.P.G.M. stated that the visit had given him the greatest pleasure, and expressed the hope that the wishes and aspirations of the mover and seconder would be realized.

Sympathy was expressed with the following brethren in their illness, viz.:—Wor. Bro. Bullock, Bros. Longbottom, Harding and Plant, and with Wor. Bro. T. H. Griffiths in the illness of Mrs. Griffiths.

Death had visited the Lodge and very suddenly removed Wor. Bro. A. G. Prince, P.P.G.J.D., whose kindly actions, urbanity and charity, had endeared him to all. For forty years his influence for good was felt by every member of the Lodge. Not only in Masonry, but in public life, as mayor, alderman, magistrate, and in other capacities, his services were appreciated and valued and his advice followed. His loss will be felt deeply by a large circle of friends as well as by the brethren of the Etruscan Lodge, many of whom paid the last token of respect to departed merit by dropping a sprig of acacia in his grave.

Death was still busy, and the much-respected Bro. Samuel Radford is lost to us, and again, Bro. R. H. Plant is taken from our midst. His death is recorded on the minutes with an expression of the great loss the Lodge has sustained—his noble example, sterling ability and

earnest appeals on behalf of charity had endeared him to every brother.

Yet again the brethren hear of death's doings, and regret the loss of Bro. Joseph Holdcroft.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Townsville (Queensland) Lodge, No. 1,596, thanking this Lodge for the kindness shown to Wor. Bro. the Rev. Canon Williams during his visit to England.

A picnic was held in June, the destination being Chester and Eaton Hall. It was attended by a large number of brethren and ladies, and a very enjoyable day was spent, in great measure due to the excellent arrangements made by the Secretary, Bro. J. Owen Williams, to whom a cordial vote of thanks was passed.

The Lodge received a letter from Bro. Thos. Warren, resigning his position as Tyler through ill-health.

Wor. Bro. Blair moved, and Wor. Bro. Harber seconded:—"That the brethren greatly regret Bro. War-"ren's resignation and his impaired health, his kindly and "obliging manner, his untiring labour for the comfort of "the brethren during the thirty-one years he had served "the Lodge, had endeared him to all, to mark the appre-"ciation of his services he be elected an honorary "member" This was carried unanimously

On the death of Bro. Geo. Radford a letter of sympathy was sent to the widow and family, and the Lodge ordered to appear in mourning for three months.

On the September Lodge meeting Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent performed a full dress rehearsal of the third degree, appointing old Past Masters as his officers on the occasion.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded by the Lodge to Wor. Bro. Kent and his officers for the excellent way the ceremony was carried out.

A letter from the Wor. D.P.G. Master informed the Lodge that it was contrary to the constitution to elect a serving brother as honorary member of his Lodge.

The regret of the Lodge was expressed by Wor. Bro. Griffiths, with the wish that Bro. Warren would attend

the Lodge as often as he could, when he would always receive a cordial welcome.

The Wor. Master explained the position to Bro. Warren, who thanked the brethren for their endeavours to elect him an honorary member and for the consideration they had always shown him, and he should attend the Lodge with the same pleasure.

Charles Henry Shenton was duly elected to serve as Tyler, and initiated in November.

Wor. Bro. McLeod, Secretary of the Boys' School, wrote stating that the Board of Management had decided to retain Hubert Blair in the school for the purpose of higher education, he having shown marked ability and was distinguished by his good conduct.

The thanks of the Lodge were sent to the Board of Management for their kindness and consideration in the case of Hubert Blair.

1905. The Annual Festival was held in the anteroom of the Town Hall for the installation of Bro. Geo. Nixon. The ceremony was performed by Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.G. Asst. D.C. England, P.P.G.S.W., acting Master in the presence of a large number of Past Masters, visitors and brethren

Wor. Bro. Blair, on behalf of the members of the Lodge, presented Bro. Warren on his retirement from the office of Tyler, after thirty-one years' service, with a purse containing £32 18s. 6d. Wor. Bro. Blair testified to the excellent manner in which Bro. Warren had done his work, and to the high esteem in which he was held by every member, and trusted that he and his wife would long live to enjoy their well-earned retirement.

Bro. Warren, in acknowledging the presentation, thanked the brethren on behalf of his wife and himself for their kindness, good feeling and practical sympathy that had always been shown to them.

In March Wor. Bro. Harber very kindly offered to provide a Charity Box if the brethren would agree to the collection of the offerings to charity each Lodge night.

The Worshipful Master, on behalf of Wor. Bro. Blair, who was unavoidably absent, presented a Master Mason's Jewel to Bro. Warren, who suitably acknowledged the gift.

After full consideration it was decided to insure the buildings, furniture, paintings and Masonic appointments belonging to the Lodge for the sum of £1,500.

The handsome Charity Box presented to the Lodge by Wor. Bro. Harber was used for the first time to collect the voluntary offerings of the brethren, and a resolution was passed to subscribe two pounds per months to the Longton Mutual Permanent Benefit Building Society in order to provide a fund for future alterations to Lodge premises, &c., Wor. Bros. G. C. Kent and A. L. Harber to be trustees of the same on behalf of the Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Harber reported that Miss Marion Webberley, daughter of the late Wor. Bro. John Webberley, had been appointed Matron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Bushey, whereupon the Wor. Master moved that a letter of congratulation be sent to Miss Webberley on her appointment, and that the resolution be entered on the minutes.

A "Ladies' evening" was held on November 30th in the ante-rooms of the Town Hall, when over fifty ladies and brethren attended. It proved a very successful gathering, and was much appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

On the ballot being taken for the Wor. Master for the ensuing year the suffrages of the brethren proved to be unanimously in favour of Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.P.G.S.W. Staffordshire, P.A.D.C. England, &c., &c., which was received by the brethren with acclamation.

Wor. Bro. Kent expressed his acknowledgments to the brethren for the high compliment they had paid to him, and then discussed with them certain modes of procedure and some alterations which he considered necessary for the well-being of the Lodge and the honour of its members.

On being assured of the assistance and full support of the brethren in carrying out the important matters he

had mentioned, he consented to occupy the chair for the ensuing year.

1906. A dispensation having been obtained from the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master to hold the Lodge in the ante-room of the Town Hall, the brethren assembled to hold the Annual Festival and instal Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent in the chair of King Solomon.

After the dispensation had been read it was resolved on the motion of Wor. Bro. Blair, and seconded by Wor. Bro. Griffiths: "That the members of the Lodge record "their deep sense of the loss sustained by Wor. Bro. "Stephen Mear, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works, on the "death of his wife, and respectfully offer him their heart-"felt sympathies in his bereavement." This was put and carried, the brethren all standing as a mark of respect.

After the numerous Grand Officers had been saluted with the honours due to their exalted rank, Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent, P.M. 546 and 2,706, P.P.S.G.W., P.A.D.C. England, was installed by Wor. Bro. Nixon, W.M., and proclaimed and saluted as became his rank.

The addresses were delivered by Wor. Bro. Thos. Taylor, P.G.D., England; Wor. Bro. J. F. Pepper, P.D.G.D.C. England, and Wor. Bro. Col. G. Walton Walker, P.G. Standard Bearer, England, D.P.G.M. Staffordshire.

Among other Grand Officers also present were Wor. Bro. H. F. Burrows, P.G.D.; Wor. Bro. J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C.; Wor Bro. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B.

Letters conveying congratulations and good wishes and regret at being unable to attend were received from Grand Officers, Prov. Grand Officers, and others, from all over the kingdom, amongst others the Very Worshipful the Right Hon. W. Vaughan Morgan, Lord Mayor of London, P.G.T. and P.G.W.; Very Wor. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary; Very Wor. Bro. Sir Charles Cameron, Grand Officer Ireland, Member of Council 33rd degree; the Worshipful Bro. Frand Richardson, Grand Director of Ceremonies; the Worshipful Bro. Sir Homewood Crawford, P. Grand Deacon, and many others.

A great number of Prov. Grand Officers and Present and Past Masters, with a large muster of the rank and file, were also present.

This was a red letter day for the Etruscan Lodge, as Wor. Bro. Kent had been W.M. in 1885, twenty-one years previously, and during this interval had served his Lodge by his valuable gifts, his great services, his inestimable advice, his regular attendance, and his no less valuable example during this time. His work had been recognised by Prov. Grand Lodge in his appointment of Prov. Grand Warden, and by Grand Lodge by having the office of A.G.D.C. conferred upon him. The Etruscans now felt that they shared in a greater degree the honour of the latter office, as well as the gratification, in having a Grand Officer to preside over them.

At the next Lodge the Wor. Master had the rare pleasure of initiating his son, Capt. William John Kent.

Great regret is expressed on hearing of the death of Bro. Geo. Copestake. He was an old and consistent Mason; he had never aspired to high rank in the Order, but nevertheless he obtained the love and support of his brethren. As a citizen he was deservedly honoured and respected; he had served the office of Mayor with dignity, and was a J.P. for the Borough. His kindly and genial manners endeared him to all who knew him, and obtained for him the title of "Gentleman George." Many brethren showed their respect for him by attending his funeral.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Wor. Master for his presentation to the Lodge of a Secretary's Pedestal.

In May the Wor. Master referred in a very feeling manner to the death of our esteemed Brother, Thomas Warren, and moved that the expression of our regret be recorded on the minutes at the loss of Bro. Warren, who for many years had served the Lodge well and faithfully in the capacity of Tyler, and that the sympathies of the members be tendered to the widow and family in their loss.

In June the Wor. Master thanked the brethren who

had accompanied and supported him at the Prov. Grand Lodge at Wednesbury, and tendered his hearty congratulations to Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion on his appointment of Prov. Grand Warden, and to Wor. Bro. Geo. Walters on his appointment as Prov. Grand Deacon. These appointments had conferred honour on the Lodge as well as on the distinguished brethren receiving them, and had given general satisfaction to the whole of the province.

Wor. Brothers Bennion and Walters thanked the Wor. Master and brethren for their kindness.

In November the death of Wor. Bro. John Ward was recorded. He was initiated in 1883, and was Wor. Master 1891. As a member of the Corporation, which he served for thirty-four years as Councillor, Alderman, and Justice of the Peace, and as Guardian of the Poor for over twenty years, he was exemplary in all these offices, but his loss was felt more severely among the ranks of the scientists, as he held a distinguished position as a geologist, having been elected a Fellow of the Geological Society in 1874. He was considered the most eminent palæontologist in North Staffordshire, and his death leaves a gap not easily to be filled.

The Lodge recorded its deep sense of the loss sustained, and tendered its sincere sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement.

On November 9th a "Ladies' evening" was held in the ante-rooms of the Town Hall, and was a highly-successful and enjoyable function.

The birthday of His Majesty the King was remembered and duly honoured.

Wor. Bro. A. L. Harber, P. Prov. Grand Treasurer, and Mrs. Harber, were heartily congratulated on Bro. Harber's election as Mayor of the Borough, with all good wishes for their health and prosperity, which compliment was gracefully acknowledged by the Mayor and Mayoress.

The year had been a very prosperous one under the able guidance of Wor. Bro. Kent, who had initiated seven good men and true. The attendance of the brethren had been good and above the average.

WOR. BRO. ARTHUR L. HARBER,
Past Prov. Grand Treasurer.

1907. At the January meeting, before the usual installation ceremony commenced, the Wor. Master Bro. G. C. Kent stated that for the second Lodge in succession he had a melancholy duty to perform. At the last meeting they had to deplore the death of Wor. Bro Ward, now they had to mourn the loss of Wor. Bro. Bromley, who, during a long course of years, was a most enthusiastic Mason. He recalled the fact that Wor. Bro. Bromley was Master of the Lodge at the time of the laying of the foundation stone of the Sutherland Institute, ten years ago. The work he did then would long endear him to their memory, and his work since had only confirmed the high opinion they had formed of him. He moved a resolution expressing the deep sense of the regret felt by the Lodge at his death, and their sympathy with Mrs. Bromley and the family in their bereavement, and that the Secretary communicate the same to them and enter it on the minutes. Wor. Bro. Blair seconded the resolution, which was passed by the brethren rising in their places.

The business of the meeting was then opened and Bro. Ebenezer Last was installed in an impressive manner by Wor. Bro. Kent, who also delivered the addresses.

The visiting Wor. Masters and other representatives of Lodges rose and expressed their hearty good wishes and greetings to the Wor. Master, who suitably acknowledged them.

The Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to the Annual Banquet at the Crown and Anchor Hotel.

In April the sum of twenty guineas was voted from the funds of the Lodge to the ensuing Festival of the Boys' School, the votes accruing therefrom to be vested on the Master's Chair.

The sudden death of Bro. John Harding placed the Lodge again in mourning.

The 109th Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held at the Crystal Palace on the 12th June, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth the

Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master for Staffordshire in the chair. The Province of Staffordshire sent 347 stewards, representing the sum of £6,319 2s.; the grand total was £28,412. The Etruscan Lodge sent six stewards with £142 5s. 6d.

A vote of sympathy was passed with Wor. Bro. Geo. Bennion in the bereavement he had sustained in the loss of his wife.

On the 12th September a vote of sympathy was passed with the widow and family of our late Bro. H. M. Williamson, who was initiated twenty-two years ago by Wor. Bro. G. C. Kent. Our late brother was eminently "a man of affairs," having been Mayor of the Borough on two occasions, Chairman of the Board of Guardians for a number of years, member of the Staffordshire County Council, &c., &c., always ready and willing to take part in any good work.

The Lodge was ordered to appear in mourning for our late brother.

At the Lodge meeting in December, Wor. Bro. Harber having stated that he desired to relinquish the office of Charity Steward, was heartily thanked for his past services, he having held the position for several years and performed the duties in an admirable manner.

Wor. Bro. Harber, in thanking the brethren for their kind expressions, pointed out that the contributions to the Charity Box in the three years it had been in use were £21 4s. 4d.

Wor. Bro. Last was then appointed Charity Steward.

On the ballot being taken for the Wor. Master for the ensuing year, Bro. Arthur Hewitt was declared to be elected.

The S.W. Bro. Hewitt thanked the brethren cordially for the honour conferred upon him.

This completes the record for the sixty years of the existence of the Lodge.

There have been few troubles, and those chiefly pecuniary, which economy and time soon overcame. Benevolence and charity have never been overlooked.

The three grand principles on which the Order is founded: "Brotherly love, relief and truth," resulted in producing unanimity and concord.

Emulation has always been present, but most conspicuous in the desire to emulate others in good works. May these kindly feelings ever be present and prevail in the Etruscan Lodge, No. 546.

THE ETRUSCAN CHAPTER, No. 546.

The above was consecrated July 17th, 1873. The Warrant, which is dated November 6th, 1872, bears the names of the founders, viz.:—

M.E. Comp. Horton Yates, Z. designate
Comp. Alfred Patterson, H. designate.
Comp. Francis S. Wright, J. designate.

Alfred Glover, Charles Glover, William Webberley, Felix H. Hawley, John Burrell, Matthew Wardhaugh and Edwin Clarke.

The other officers appointed were:—

Comp. John Pratt, S.E.
" Wardhaugh, S.N.
" W. R. Blair, Prin. Soj.
" J. Webberley, 1st. Asst. S.
" A. G. Prince, 2nd Asst. S.
" F. S. Wright, Treasurer.
" H. Baggaley, Janitor.

The following is a list of the First Principals, many of whom obtained Provincial Grand Rank:—

1873.	M.E.Z.	...	...	Horton Yates.
1874.	"	...	...	Alfred Patterson.
1875.	"	...	...	F. S. Wright.
1876.	"	...	...	Horton Yates.
1877.	"	...	...	John Webberley.
1878.	"	...	...	A. G. Prince.
1879.	"	..	...	Joseph Sherwin.
1880.	"	...	...	B. H. Brough.

1881.	M.E.Z.	...	...	Thomas Turner.
1882.	„	...	...	J. Payne Hall.
1883.	„	...	...	J. G. Bakewell.
1884.	„	...	...	William Vernon.
1885.	„	...	...	George Bennion.
1886.	„	...	...	J. M. Darwin.
1887.	„	...	...	Geo. C. Kent.
1888.	„	...	...	W. R. Blair.
1889.	„	...	...	William Brickel.
1890.	„	...	...	A. S. Walters.
1891.	„	...	...	Stephen Mear.
1892.	„	...	...	Alfred Mear.
1893.	„	...	...	David Chapman.
1894.	„	...	...	P. H. Bennion.
1895.	„	...	...	Samuel J. Bott.
1896.	„	...	...	J. E. Hodson.
1897.	„	...	...	George Bennion.
1898.	„	...	...	Vincent Litchfield.
1899.	„	...	...	Geo. H. Frewer.
1900.	„	...	...	J. W. Bromley.
1901.	„	...	...	Arthur L. Harber.
1902.	„	...	...	George Fisher.
1903.	„	...	...	Edwin Nall.
1904.	„	...	...	F. G. Warburton.
1905.	„	...	...	William Brickel.
1906.	„	...	...	W. W. Wynne.
1907.	„	...	...	W. W. Wynne.

The Chapter opened auspiciously, having M.E. Comp. Horton Yates as Z., whose excellent rendering of the ceremonies was noted throughout the province. The high position then achieved has been ably maintained by the succeeding First Principals, supported by their officers, "as the subordinate members of the Catenarian Arch "naturally gravitate towards the centre, or keystone, "which compresses and cements the whole structure "together."

Charity, in pecuniary gifts to the distressed, as well as that kind so beautifully described by St. Paul has, in this Chapter, been amply illustrated.

The present officers (1908) are:—

M.E.Z.—Robert Surtees.
P.Z.—W. W. Wynne.
H.—E. Last.
J.—W. Foster.
E.—D. Derry.
N.—A. Hewitt.
Treasurer—Geo. Bennion.
Prin. Soj.—S. Leese.
1st. Asst. S.—R. W. Day.
2nd Asst. S.—A. J. Woodward.
D.C.—Geo. C. Kent.
Steward—J. O. Williams.
Janitor—C. H. Shenton.

THE ETRUSCAN LODGE OF MARK MASTERS, No. 308.

The above was consecrated November 16th, 1882, the founders being:—

Bro. W. R. Blair. | Bro. John Webberley.
„ Thomas Turner. | „ Arthur G. Prince.
Bro. Benjamin H. Brough.

The ceremony was performed by Right Wor. P.P.M.M. Lieut.-Col. Foster Gough, LL.D., assisted by Very Wor. D.P.G.M.M. Major Tudor.

The first officers were:—

Bro. W. R. Blair, Wor. Master.
„ Thomas Turner, Senior Warden.
„ John Webberley, Junior Warden.
„ A. G. Prince, Master Overseer.
„ Benjamin Brough, Senior Overseer.
„ J. G. Bakewell, Junior Overseer.
„ T. H. Griffiths, Senior Deacon.
„ J. M. Darwin, Junior Deacon.
„ D. Chapman, Treasurer.
„ Thomas Turner, Secretary.
„ Geo. Bennion, Junior Guard.
„ Thomas Warren, Tyler.

The enthusiasm of the brethren continued for a few years, but gradually they withdrew, and the Lodge was finally closed in 1890.

APPENDIX.

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CARLO BREGAZZI was a Carver and Gilder in Tontine Street, Hanley.

[COPY OF BYE-LAWS issued by the Grand Lodge of Ancient or Atholl Freemasons, and adopted in 1805 by The United Potters' Lodge, No. 134, meeting at the White Lion, Lane End.]

In the Year of Masonry, 580.

The most Noble Prince, John, DUKE, *and Marquis of* ATHOLL, *Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathtay, and Strathardle,* VISCOUNT *of Ballquider, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask, heritable Captain and Constable of the Castle and Constabulary of Kincleaven, Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., &c.*

Grand Master of the most Antient and Honourable Fraternity of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

The R. W. Thomas Harper, Esq., D.G.M.
William Burwood, Esq., S.G.W.
William Chaplin, Esq., J.G.W.
Mr. Robert Leslie } *G. Secretaries.*
Edwards Harper }

These Bye-Laws Printed by order of the Grand Lodge.

RULES AND ORDERS

Which are to be punctually observed and kept by the most Antient and Honourable Fraternity of FREE *and* ACCEPTED MASONS, *according to the old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince* EDWIN *at* YORK, *in the Year of our Lord Nine Hundred Twenty and Six, and in the Year of Masonry Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and Six.*

In order to prevent all Feuds, Controversies, illegal Arguments, or Debates which might in any Sort disturb or make void the true Intent and Meaning of this our unanimous Conjunction, We the Master, Warden, Deacons and Secretary, together with the rest of the Members of our Lodge, No. 134 *(by and with the Approbation and Consent of the* GRAND LODGE) *have thought proper to subscribe and establish the following Rules.*

I. THAT a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, aforesaid, shall be held at the White Lion Inn, Lane End, County of Stafford, upon the Tuesday nearest the full Moon. That the said Lodge shall consist of One Master, Two Wardens, Two Deacons, One Secretary, One Treasurer, and as many Members as the Master and Majority shall think proper; and that every Brother shall appear in decent Apparel, with proper Clothing, and observe a due Decorum while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn: and for the better Preservation of Secrecy and good Harmony, a Brother well skilled in the Master's Part, shall be appointed and paid for tyling the Lodge Door during the Time of Communication.

II. THAT the Lodge shall meet at the Hours hereafter mentioned; *viz.* * from the Vernal Equinox to the Autumnal Equinox, at Seven o'Clock in the Evening, and sit till Ten; and from the Autumnal Equinox aforesaid to the Vernal Equinox following, from Six to Nine o'Clock: and if any Member be absent one Hour after the appointed Time of Meeting he shall be fined Sixpence, and if absent the whole night, or Time of Business, he shall be fined One Shilling except such Absentee be Sick, Lame, in Confinement, or upwards of Three Miles from the Place of Meeting; and that all such Fines shall be deposited in the Fund for the Relief of indigent Brethren.

* The Vernal Equinox upon or near the Twenty-first of March; Autumnal Equinox upon or near the Twenty-second of September.

III. THAT the Master shall be chose by Ballot; *viz.* the Wardens shall stand Candidates for the Chair on the stated Lodge Night next before each St. *John*'s Day; and the Candidates shall withdraw, while every free * Member gives his Vote in favour of him which he deems most worthy; each free Member having one Vote, and the Master two † Votes.

When done, the Master shall order the Candidates before him; and having carefully examined the Poll, shall then audibly declare him (that hath the Majority) duly elected.

Then the Master Elect shall nominate one for the senior Warden's Chair; at which Time the Present Master and Brethren shall nominate one in Opposition, to be balloted for in like manner; and so on in the Choice of all the inferior Officers: and that no Person shall be put in such Election, but such as are deemed to be able and worthy of Performance.

* *Vide* the Rule XIII.

† That is, when the Number of Votes happen to be equal. In such Case the Master has two Votes; otherwise he has but a single Vote.

IV. THAT the Master and Wardens of this Lodge shall attend the Grand Lodge, and the Stewards Lodge, when summoned by the Grand Secretary (if within Twenty Miles of London); and when in the Grand or Stewards Lodge, he, they, or either of them, shall have full Power and Authority to transact all Matters relative to this Lodge, as well, full, and truly, as if we the whole Body were then present.

V. THAT if any Member (past Officers excepted *) refuse to serve any of the aforesaid Offices, he shall be fined as follows; *viz.* for the Master Five Shillings, each Warden and Secretary Two Shillings and Sixpence, each Deacon One Shilling, (the Treasurer at the Discretion of the Majority) and to be fined the like Sum if they don't serve their full Time, except for the Reasons mentioned in the second Rule.

* It is not lawful to fine a Member for not serving an Office which he hath formerly served with Honour; nor for Non-servitude in any Office beneath the Dignity thereof, while there are other Master Masons in the Lodge.

VI. THAT all the Members of this Lodge shall dine together upon (or near) every St. *John's* Day; that each Member shall pay Three Shillings on the Lodge Night (next) before such Feast Day, towards defraying the Charges of the Festival. That the Wardens shall be appointed Stewards to transact all Matters relating to the Feast. That the new Master and other Officers shall be immediately installed after Dinner, at which Time all and every of the Accompts belonging to the Feast, and Lodge Affairs in general, shall be properly settled, and delivered to the new Officers: and that all Visitors who dine at such Feast shall pay Two Shillings over and above the constant Members; Sojourners always at the Discretion of the Majority.

VII. THAT on every stated Lodge Night each Member shall pay * One Shilling and Sixpence of which the whole shall be spent, and a Subscription of Seven Shillings per Quarter, Supper Expenses, Grand Dues and indigent Brethren included. That the junior Warden shall keep an exact Accompt of the Reckoning, and acquaint the Lodge when the stated Complement is in And upon his Negligence or Omission, he shall be accountable for the Deficiency. And whereas the junior Warden is accountable for such Deficiency, it is hereby Ordered and Declared, That if any Member shall order any Liquor, &c. on the Lodge Accompt, without the Consent of the said Warden, the Transgressor shall pay for the Quantity so ordered out of his private Pocket, exclusive of the stated Expence of the Night.

* Many Lodges pay Seven Shillings per Quarter, Grand Dues included.

VIII. THAT no Visitor * shall be admitted after Lodge Hours; *viz.* Nine in Winter and Ten in Summer; nor at any Time without the Consent of the presiding Officer:

and, if admitted into the Lodge Room, he shall perform a certain Ceremony in the Master's presence before he sits down: nor shall any Brother (that is not a Member of a Lodge) visit a second Time, Sojourners excepted.

* Visitors' Contributions to the Reckoning left at the Discretion of the Majority.

IX. ANY Person desirous of being made a Free Mason in this Lodge, shall be proposed by a Member hereof; that is to say, his Name, Age, Description of his Person, Title or Trade, and Place of Residence. That such Proposal shall be made in Lodge Hours, at least one Lodge Night before the Initiation, in order that the Brethren may have sufficient Time and Opportunity to make a strict Inquiry into the Morals, Character, and Circumstances of the Candidate. And the Brother that proposes him shall at the same Time, deposit such a Sum (of the Candidate's Money) as the Majority shall think sufficient (not less than One Crown) to insure the Lodge that the Candidate will attend according to the Proposal. And if the Lodge approve his Person, Age, Character and Circumstances, and therefore initiate him into the Mystery, &c., he shall pay whatsoever Sum the Brethren shall think proper (not less than Two Guineas) and cloath the Lodge if required. But if the Lodge think the Candidate unworthy, and refuse to make him, his Money shall be faithfully returned to him. But in case the Lodge approve his Person and Character, &c., and he refuse to be made, then shall he forfeit his Money for the Benefit of distressed Free Masons. And it is hereby Ordered and Declared, That no Person is capable of becoming a Member of this Lodge, but such as are of mature Age, upright in Body and Limbs, free from Bondage, has the Senses of a Man, and is endowed with an Estate, Office, Trade, Occupation, or some visible Way of acquiring an honest and reputable Livelihood, as becomes the Members of this most Antient and Honourable Fraternity.

X. ANY old Mason desirous of becoming a Member of this Lodge, shall produce a Certificate of his good Behaviour in his former Lodge; upon which he shall be proposed, and balloted for as before; and if admitted a Member, he shall pay whatsoever Sum the Brethren shall think proper, not less than Five Shillings.

XI. IF any Brother in this Lodge curse, swear, lay, or offer to lay Wagers, or use any reproachful Language in Derogation of GOD's Name, or Corruption of good Manners, or interrupt any Officer while speaking, he shall be fined at the Discretion of the Master and Majority.

XII. IF any Member of this Lodge come disguised in Liquor, he shall be admonished (by the presiding Officer) for the first Offence; for the second of the same Nature, he shall be fined One Shilling; and for the third he shall be excluded, and reported to the Grand Lodge.

XIII. ALL Fines, Dues, &c. shall be paid on the third (stated) Lodge Night next after they become due; otherwise the Person so indebted shall not have a Vote in the Lodge. And if not cleared on St. *John*'s Day, he shall be excluded, except some Cause appear which may excite Lenity.

XIV. THAT on a Lodge Night, in the Master's Absence, the past Master may take his Place*; and in his Absence the senior Warden, and in his Absence the junior Warden; and in the Absence of all the Officers, the Members according to Seniority and Merit shall fill the absent Officers' Places. And it is hereby Ordered and Declared, That every Officer absent on a Lodge Night, whether stated or on an Emergency, shall be fined a discretionary Fine, over and above the common Fine of private Members; except for the Reasons mentioned in the second and thirteenth Rules.

* It is the undoubted Right of the Wardens to fill the Chair, even though a former Master be present; but the Wardens generally wave this privilege upon a supposition that the past Masters are best acquainted with the Business of the Lodge.

XV. THAT the Master shall have full Power and Authority to call a Lodge on an Emergency, where all the Members are to attend, or be liable to Fines as on stated Lodge Nights; but such Fines shall not be levied until Proof is made of the Absentee being actually summoned (in Writing) to such Emergency.

XVI. THAT the Chest, Warrant, Cash and Furniture of this Lodge shall be in the Care of some responsible Brother, such as the Master and Majority shall think proper and sufficient; and the Money to be disposed of for the Advancement of the Lodge, and Benefit of the Brethren.

XVII. THAT the Secretary shall keep a regular Register of the Members, according to the Form annexed; and proper Minutes of all the Transactions (that are fit to be committed to Writing) in order that the said Transactions may be laid before the Grand Lodge once a Quarter if required.

XVIII. THAT no disagreeable Dispute be suffered to arise in this Lodge: but if a Dispute (concerning Masonry or otherwise) should happen between the Brethren out of the Lodge, which they cannot decide between themselves, such Dispute, Complaint or Controversy, shall be laid before this Lodge, and here decided, if possible. But if the Disputants will not then agree, in order to prevent vexatious Law-suits, &c., the Master shall order the Secretary to take proper Minutes of such Complaint, Dispute, or Controversy, and lay the same before the next Grand Lodge, where such Disputants are to attend (if within

Twenty Miles of London) and agree as the Grand Lodge shall order. But in case of Non-compliance to such Decision of the Grand Lodge, such Person or Persons as refuse to be conformable, shall be forever excluded, and deemed unworthy of this Society: and the Grand Secretary (according to the Nature of his Office) shall give Notice of such Exclusion to the warranted Lodges (under the antient Constitution of England) throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

XIX. THAT the Master, Wardens, and the rest of the Members of this Lodge, when duly congregated, shall have full Power and Authority to make, amend, correct or explain these or such other Rules and Orders as may seem most necessary and convenient for the Welfare of the Lodge, providing such Additions or Alterations do not remove our antient Land-Marks. And if such Addition or Amendment be made, the Master shall order the Secretary to send a fair Copy of such Regulation to the Grand Secretary, for the Benefit of the Society in general.

XX. THAT the Tyler shall receive one Shilling for every Mason that shall be made in this Lodge, and Sixpence for every old Mason that shall become a Member of this Lodge. And the said Tyler shall take particular Care not to admit any Person (not even a Member) without the Knowledge and Consent of the presiding Officer; neither shall he admit any Visitor (that is not a Member of a warranted Lodge) a second Time, Sojourners producing Certificates excepted.

XXI. THAT these Rules and Orders shall be read (by the Secretary, or some other Brother of the Master's Appointment) to every new Member (or Candidate, if required) or otherwise, as Occasion shall require in the Lodge.

XXII. THAT the Members of this Lodge shall contribute annually to the Grand Lodge Fund, or general Charity, for the Relief of distressed Free Masons, according to the general Mode of Contributions *pro tempore*: and that the Master shall send a true List of all the Members to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, at the Time of such Contributions, or as often as Occasion shall require.

XXIII. IF a Complaint be made against a Brother by another Brother, and he be found Guilty, he shall stand to the Determination of this, or the Grand Lodge, according to the XVIIIth Rule; but if a Complaint be made against a Brother, wherein the Accuser cannot support his Complaint to Conviction, such Accuser shall forfeit such Penalty as the Person so accused might have forfeited, had he been really convicted on such Complaint.

XXIV. THAT in order to preserve good Harmony, and encourage (working) Master Masons, it is hereby Ordered and Declared, That no Brother under the Degree of a Master Mason, shall be admitted to visit this Lodge upon any Pretence whatsoever.

XXV. THAT upon (or near) every St. *John's* Day, during the Continuance of this Lodge, the new installed Officers shall send a proper List of all the Members, signed by the said Officers, and counter-signed by the past Officers, to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, whereby the said Secretary may be enabled to know the Hand-writing of such Officers, and pay due Respect to such Persons as may from time to time be certified by the Officers of this Lodge *pro tempore.*

XXVI. AND if a Member be found guilty of any Misdemeanor, not directly specified in the aforesaid Rules and Orders, he shall be dealt with according to the Discretion of the Master and Majority. Such Decision nevertheless shall be subject to an Appeal to a general Grand Lodge.

FINIS.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

INTRODUCTION TO AND GOVERNMENT

OF THE

HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS,

UNDER THE PROTECTION AND SUPPORTED BY

THE ANCIENT GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND,

MADE AT SEVERAL TIMES.

Revised and Corrected at a General Grand Chapter, held at the CROWN AND ANCHOR TAVERN, *in the* STRAND, LONDON, *October* 1, 5794.

CONFIRMED IN GRAND LODGE, DECEMBER 3, 1794.

ANCIENT MASONRY consists of Four Degrees.—The Three first of which are, that of THE APPRENTICE, THE FELLOW CRAFT, and the Sublime Degree of MASTER; and a Brother being well versed in these Degrees, and having discharged the Offices of his Lodge, particularly that of Master, and fulfilled the Duties thereof with the Approbation of the Brethren of his Lodge, is eligible, if found worthy, to be admitted to the Fourth Degree, THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH.

It follows, therefore, of course, that every regular Warranted Lodge possesses the Power of forming and holding Lodges in each of those several Degrees; the last of which, from its Pre-eminence, is denominated among Masons a *Chapter*.

That the said Chapters of the H. R. A. may be held and conducted with the Regularity, Discipline, and Solemnity, becoming the Sublime Intention with which they have from Time immemorial been held as an essential component Part of Ancient Masonry, and that which is the Perfection and end of the beautiful System, the Excellent Masons of the Grand Lodge of *England* according to the Old Institutions, assembled and constitutionally convened in General Grand Chapter of H. R. A. have carefully collected, revised, and adopted the Regulations which have long been in Use for the

Government thereof; that, under the Sanction of the Grand Lodge, they may be transmitted to every regular Warranted Lodge on the Register, and be solemnly and finally made a Part of the Book of Laws and Regulations for the Craft.

I. That no Chapter of H. R. A. shall be held or convened within the Kingdom of *England*, or Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging, but under the Authority and Sanction of a regular subsisting Warrant, granted by the Grand Lodge, according to the Old Institutions.

II. That no Chapter of H. R. A. shall be convened and held for the purpose of exalting to the Degree of Holy Royal Arch Masons, unless Six Regular Registered Royal Arch Masons be present.

III. That no Brother shall be admitted into the H. R. A. but he who has regularly and faithfully passed through the Three progressive Degrees, and has performed the duties in his Lodge to the Satisfaction of his Brethren; to ascertain which, they shall deliver to him in Open Lodge, held in the Master's Degree, a Certificate to the following Purpot:

"*To the Presiding Chiefs of the Chapter of Excellent Royal Arch Masons, under the Sanction of Lodge No. Whereas our trusty and well-beloved Brother*

a Geometric Master Mason, and Member of our Lodge, has solicited us to recommend him as a Master Mason, every Way qualified, so far as we are Judges of the necessary Qualifications, for passing the Holy Arch: We do hereby certify, that the said trusty and well-beloved Brother has obtained the unanimous Consent of our Lodge, No. for the Recommendation and Signing this Certificate.

Given under our Hands this Day of 179

W. M.

S. W.

Secretary J. W.

IV. That a General Grand Chapter of the H. R. A. shall be held Half-yearly, on the First *Wednesday* in the Month of *April* and *October* in each Year; that every Warranted Lodge shall be directed to summon its Excellent Royal Arch Members to attend the same; and that none but Members of Warranted Lodges, and Present and Past Grand Officers (being Royal Arch Masons), shall be Members thereof, certified Sojourners to be admitted as Visitors only.

V. That, for the better Preservation of the Supreme Degree of Free Masonry, a Register shall be kept by the Scribes of all the Brothers admitted to the Most Excellent Degree; and for the greater Security against all improper Admissions to the H. R. A. the Return of Brothers so admitted by the private Chapter of their own or other Lodge, together with the Certificate of their due Qualification, shall be presented at such General Grand Chapters, held Half-yearly as aforesaid, to be there examined previous to their Entry in the Register-book of the Grand Chapter.

VI. That General Grand Chapters may be held more frequently if Occasion may require, Application for that Purpose being made by at least Six Excellent Masons to the Grand Chiefs; but at such General Grand Chapters of Emergency, no established Law shall be altered, and no new Law that may be made, shall be conclusive and binding, until ratified and confirmed by a regular Half-yearly General Grand Chapter, but at such General Chapters of Emergency, Certificates for Registry may be granted.

VII. That on the Admission of a new Brother the Form of the Return to the Grand Chapter, or to the Grand Scribe, shall be as follows:

"*We, the Three Chiefs, whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do certify, That in a Chapter of Holy Royal Arch, convened and held under the Sanction and Authority of the Warrant of the Worshipful Lodge, No. our beloved Brothers G. H. I. K. and L. M. having delivered to us the Certificates hereunto subjoined, and proved themselves, by due Examination, to be well Qualified in all the Three Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, were by us admitted to the Supreme Degree of Excellent Royal Arch Masons. Given under our Hands and Masonic Mark in Chapter, this day of in the Year of Masonry,* 579

Signed Z. H. J. } *Chiefs.*

Scribe

VIII. That all registered Royal Arch Brothers shall be entitled to a Grand Royal Arch Certificate, either on Paper or Parchment, on the Payment of Three Shillings for the same.

IX. That the Expences of General Grand Chapters for Tylers, Summonses, &c., shall be borne from the Grand Fund, as formerly ordered by the Grand Lodge.

X. That the Sum of Half a Guinea, shall be charged on and paid by every Brother exalted at any Chapter held within the Bills of Mortality, of which the Sum of Two Shillings shall be paid to the General Grand Fund on the registering of the Brother, and One Shilling to the Grand Scribe, and the rest to be applied according to the Discretion of the private Chapter. The Country, Foreign, and Military Chapters, to be left to their own Discretion, paying Two Shillings to the Grand Fund, and one Shilling to the Grand Scribe on registering.

XI. That a Member of any particular Lodge in London, recommended by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, in open Lodge assembled, and after due Examination by any of the Three Grand Chiefs, or the two Grand Scribes, or any Two of the same, the Brother, being a Master Mason, and duly registered at least Twelve Months, as shall appear under the Hand of the Grand Secretary, and having past the Chair, shall, if approved by the R. A. Chapter to whom the Brother is recommended, be admitted to the Sublime Degree of Excellent, or R. A. Mason.

XII. That in Country or Foreign Lodges, a Brother so recommended, by the unanimous Consent of the Lodge, producing the Grand Secretary's Certificate of his being Twelve Months a registered Master Mason, and approved of by the Three presiding Chiefs at the Chapter to whom the Brother is recommended, shall be admitted to the sublime Degree of Excellent or R. A. Masons; those Chiefs duly certifying the same to the next General Grand Chapter, or the Grand Scribes, in London.

XIII. It is further ordered, that every Chapter, either in Town, Country, or Abroad, held under the Sanction of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England, shall return the Name of every Brother, who may have been so exalted to the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Mason; and shall continue Half-yearly to return the Names of those who, from Time to Time, are exalted to that Degree; also all Brethren who may join your Lodge, that are of that Sublime Degree mentioning the Time, when and where; such Lodges as do not comply with the above Regulation, will be subject to the Censure of the Grand Lodge, and liable to have their Warrant cancelled.

XIV. That Excellent Brothers from the Country or Foreign Lodges, producing the afore-mentioned Certificates from the Chapter in which they were admitted, to the Satisfaction of

the Grand Chiefs in London, the Two Grand Scribes, or any two of them, shall be entitled to be registered, and receive a R. A. Certificate immediately, if required, for which the Grand Scribes shall make their Report at the next General Grand Chapter.

N. B. The General Grand Chapter, held in October in each Year, shall elect Nine Excellent Masters to assist the Grand Officers in visiting Lodges, &c. that the General Uniformity of Ancient Masonry may be preserved and handed down unchanged to Posterity.

EDW. HARPER, *G. Scribe.*

London,
Sept. 4th, 1805.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF LODGE No. 134,

HELD AT THE

WHITE LION, IN LANE END,

And returned to the GRAND LODGE, 1806.

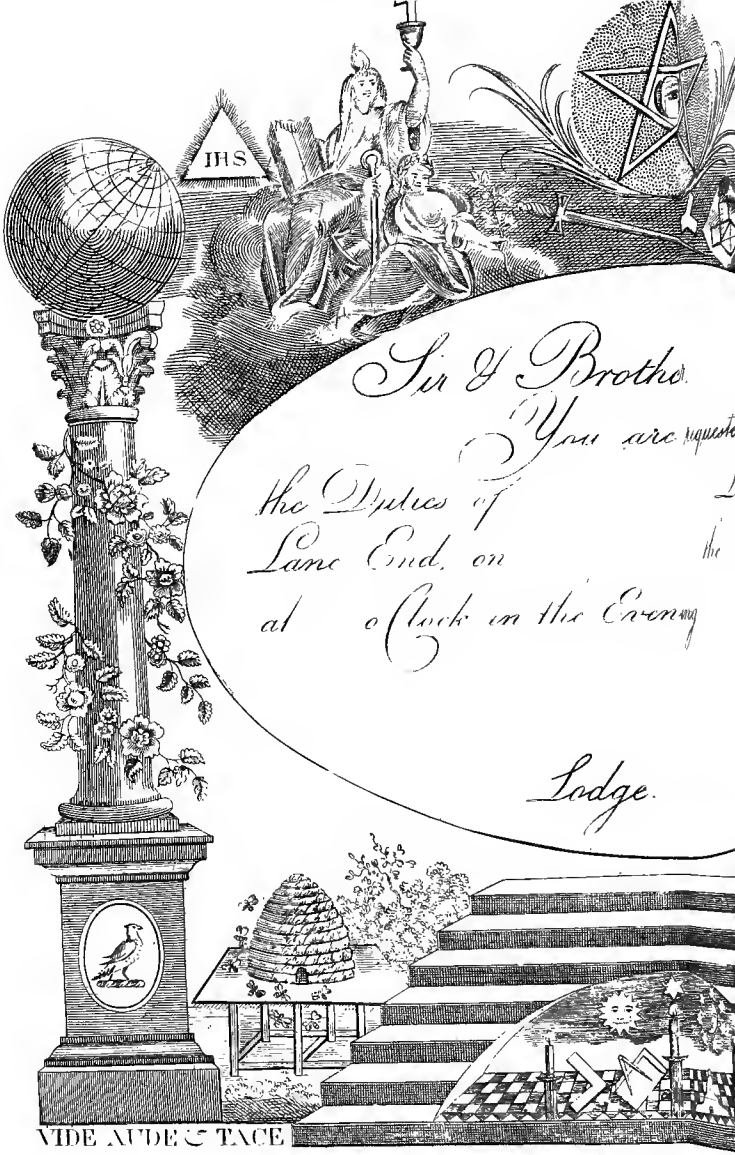
WM. HYATT	P.M.
PAGE GODFREY	W.M.
JOHN FORRESTER	P.S.W.
PETER HUGHES	S.W.
RICHD. BARKER	J.W.
J. H. SHERIDAN	P.J.W.
BROADHURST HARDING ...	P.S.D.
JNO. BARKER	J.D.
JESSE CYPLES	P.S.D.
JOHN PALMER	D.S.

THOS. BLOOD.

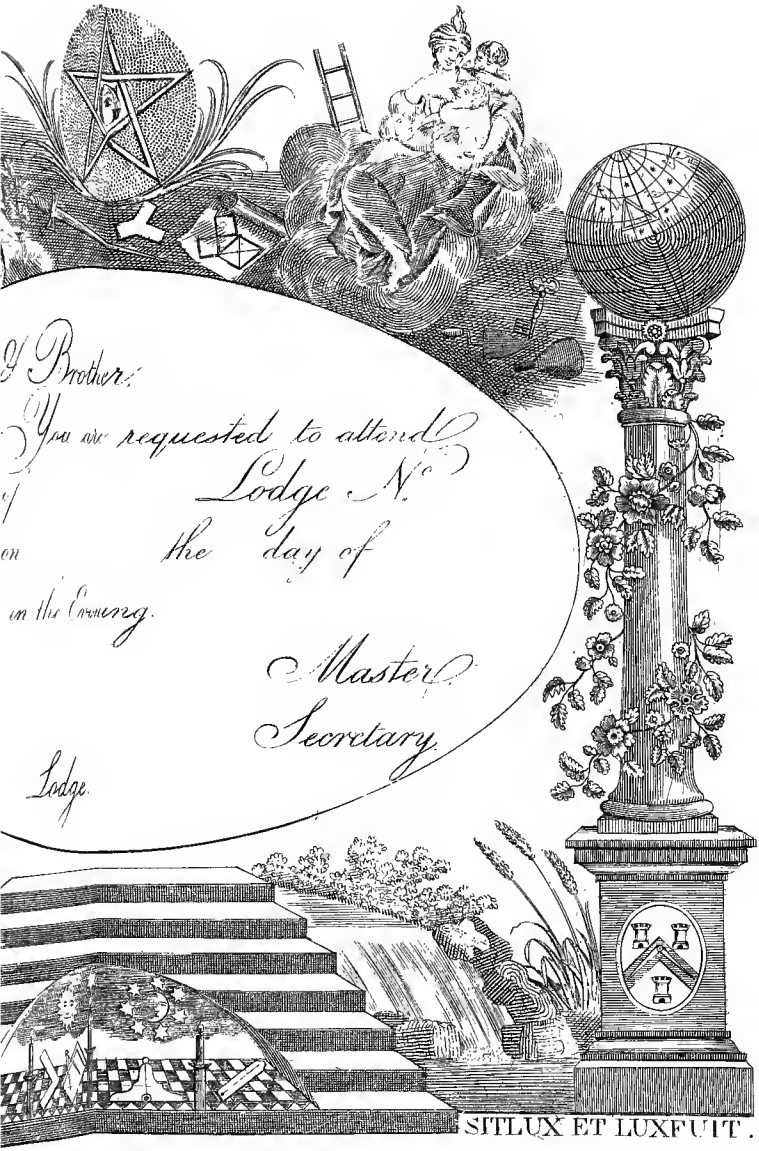
THOS. BOND.

J. H. WALKLATE.

GEORGE OAKES.



Copy of Summons to attend Lodge which was used i
The Copper Plate from which this is printed was presente



d Lodge which was used in common by both Lane End Lodges.
his is printed was presented to the Lodge by Bro. John Wagg, Tyler.